

Blacks Confront Gay Housing

B.A.R.

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Does Improved Housing Displace Blacks?

Blacks Discuss Gay 'Speculation'

By Bruce Pettit

Gay impact on San Francisco's housing patterns — which first surfaced in 1976 as a concern of the Mission district's Latino community — appears now to be an increasing anxiety for Blacks with longtime ties to the Western Addition.

The San Francisco Black

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Leadership Forum (BLF) has called a February 3 workshop limited to its all-Black membership. The topic — "Gay Speculation" — is prompted by an article in the newsletter of the Third World Fund, which provides financial assistance for minority community projects. Brief interviews with Forum leaders suggest that the Black community wishes to collect its various thoughts on the subject before asking the Gay community for extensive dialogue.

"Quite a few members and non-members . . . agree that this subject should no longer be whispered about and open discussion should take place — the sooner the better," BLF program chair Idaree Westbrook wrote in a memo proposing the workshop to the membership.

Westbrook characterized the concern to B.A.R.: "Gays buy

"Gays are willing to take risks straight couples are not." . . . David Scott

apartment buildings in the Western Addition, fix them up, and raise the rents so high that poor people cannot stay in neighborhoods they have grown up in. It's nice to fix apartments up. But you Gays don't give them to families; you give them to other Gays.

"You don't come to us and say, 'What can we do for you?' If you Gays are a minority as you claim, why don't you start working with other minorities and their main problem which is poverty? I don't see any poverty among Gays."

WORKSHOP TOPICS

Third World Fund founder Ida Strickland, a prominent Black leader who was outspoken against the anti-Gay teacher Proposition 6 last year, co-authored the newsletter feature. The challenging article made these points which will be discussed at the Forum workshop:

- "Gay men are a significant part of that white population which is now discovering excellent buying opportunities (for housing) in what had formerly been predominantly Black areas . . . Gays who are now in

a position to accept bank funds, which were denied Black residents just months before, are exercising white privilege."

- "When the movement of Gays into previously Black neighborhoods is accompanied



Is the Gay males' remodeling of tattered Victorian houses really a "plan geared toward driving non-white and poor out of increasingly white and wealthy San Francisco?"

by a rhetoric . . . which equates the oppression of Blacks with the suppression of homosexuality, racial insult is added to white male arrogance."

- "Gays are being used as the leading edge of a quiet redevelopment plan geared toward driving non-white and poor out of increasingly white and wealthy San Francisco."

- "Gays are not utilizing that heightening of consciousness which should have come with their experience in struggling against laws such as Proposition 6."

Although the workshop will be closed to public and press, recently retired president George Newkirk told B.A.R. that the BLF will likely issue a public statement at the close of the session. BLF has approximately 300 members who, according to Newkirk, are representative of every segment of the city's Black population — 13% of San Francisco and 39% of supervisorial District 4 (Western Addition) according to the Coro Foundation's 1977 statistics.

GAYS TAKE RISKS

David Scott, up-front white Gay who is president of the city's Board of Permit Appeals, noted that there are more Gays than non-Gays improving housing because straight couples are fleeing the city's crime and school problems. "Gays are willing to take risks straight couples are not," he said.

Scott continued, "It is regrettable that one minority is discouraging another from working hard and getting ahead." He suggested another source of the problem: "The Bank of America lends money to foreign dictatorships that it could rather invest in local housing. Then the cost of housing would be lowered drastically. This is a national and state problem; it

cannot be solved locally. The Fund sets out a problem but offers no solution."

Scott also believes the activity being attributed to Gays would be better labeled "investment," not "speculation." Speculation, he says, is holding property, adding nothing of value to it, and reselling it for profit. Investment is adding improvements and thus genuine value.

WORKING TOGETHER

Jim Rivaldo is a white Gay who is president of the Haight-Fillmore Neighborhood Association — in the geographic center of the controversy. HFNA, he says, is balanced with Blacks and whites, Gays and non-Gays, tenants and landlords, and is the only organization at present trying to bring all viewpoints into communication.

Rivaldo cites a documented national trend of young professionals moving back into blighted urban neighborhoods and restoring them. "In San Francisco those professionals just happen to be Gay, for the most part. It is incorrect to try to tie the phenomenon to Gay sexual politics. There is a blameless, private attempt to make up for the city's 20 years of neglect in five years, and it's very expensive. Black people who once tried to get loans for their own renovations were denied by the banks."

Rivaldo says both Gays and Blacks bear some responsibility, however. "It's true that some Gays are promoting their renovations as exclusive Gay housing and upcoming Gay neighborhoods. On the other hand, Black people with money knew the neighborhood has been up for grabs for some time, and they chose to invest elsewhere. There was no imagination or interest to make the Haight-Fillmore a showcase of Black culture."

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He Did It Again!

'Approve Gay Job Rights' Governor Tells Legislature

SACRAMENTO

Governor Jerry Brown has again told the State Legislature that he is supportive of bills coming before it that will place "sexual preference" on the laundry list of ethnic and racial groups that are now guaranteed non-discrimination in employment under state law.

Brown had told the legislature in his recent Inaugural address, "I will support the necessary changes in our Fair Employment Practices Act, to include prohibitions against discrimination based on sexual preference. The diversity of our people can be a cause of hatred and anxiety or the source of strength and continued advancement. The choice is ours."

The governor has repeated his position in his State of the State message to the legislature on January 16. He said, "I will support efforts before the California Legislature to augment the Fair Employment Practices Act to include prohibitions against discriminations based on sexual preference."

"I think the time has arrived where this society is sophisticated enough to welcome into its midst the full plentitude of people and human spirit that is here in this state. We have to put aside the myths and anachronisms of the past as we build for the future."

MCC's Role Discussed By New Minister, Installed on Feb. 11

The Rev. Jim N. Dykes has compared the ten-year Metropolitan Community Church experience to Martin Luther's awe at spawning the 16th century Protestant Reformation.

Alluding to the MCC founder, Dykes observes, "Troy Perry had no idea what MCC would become . . . If in time we succeed in turning around the Church's concept of human sexuality, we will have started a new reformation of major proportions."

Dykes will be installed as pastor of MCC-San Francisco at the 1:00 pm service Sunday, Feb. 11, at 23rd & Capp Streets. He succeeds the Rev. Chuck Larsen, now pastor of MCC-Houston.

The new San Francisco pastor pegs the Gay liberation role of MCC in what he views as the Church's only area of authority — morality and ethics. Dykes is excited that its being a church entitles MCC to something to say. "Our community can realize that we don't have to borrow from other models of morality — the Judaic-Christian condemnation of sex as bad. MCC offers a place for Gays — and

In another development, the Speaker of the State Assembly, Leo McCarthy, told the cheering delegates at the State Democratic Party convention on January 20 that he was supportive of legislation assuring the rights of people based on "sexual preference."

Both Brown and McCarthy



were outspoken in their opposition to Proposition 6 (the anti-Gay teachers initiative) on the November ballot. It was Brown who successfully urged President Carter to endorse a NO ON 6 during the final phase of that campaign. McCarthy has supported all Gay rights legislation in the past.

eventually all people — to risk looking at these questions."

Dykes acknowledges MCC's fundamentalist reputation in the larger Gay community. "That results from a response by many of our people to our invitations to come out. MCC affirms that you're okay, that God loves you, that you are free to be who you are. That's coming out. That represents a radical change in people's lives. Many of our church people want to totally accept themselves immediately, so they are inclined to the conversion experience as the quickest process."

Actually, Dykes insists, MCC has two prominent streams — both the evangelical (which he prefers to "fundamental") and the liberal/critical. The former pastor of MCC-Santa Monica says he was brought up in the evangelical but trained in the critical tradition, and thus hopes he can assist MCC's two streams in finding common ground.

Unlike founder Perry, Dykes has no objection to MCC being called a "Gay church" and regards the term as an appropriate sociological description. . . . BP

INFANT ADOPTED BY DOCTOR & MCC MINISTER

By Bruce Pettit

Dr. Aubert Dykes, a pediatrician, and the Rev. Jim Dykes, minister of San Francisco's Metropolitan Community Church, are believed to have become the first up-front Gay couple in the United States to be granted the legal adoption of an infant child. Only adoption of teenagers by Gays had precedent in the past.

The doctor and the pastor are now parents of 23-month-old Robert David Dykes, an adoption approved by Superior Court Judge Huey Shepherd in Los Angeles on January 12.

Aubert Dykes, known as "Lanny," closed a single-parent adoption — the only possibility under California law. As Jim Dykes explained, "We felt Lanny would be the better adoption parent because he is a physician."

Rev. Jim Dykes legally took the surname of Lanny Dykes shortly after they became lovers four years ago. According to the pastor, "In both the name-change and the adoption, we believed in going through the system to show that it can work for Gay people."

By choosing the California option for an "independent" adoption directly with the natural parents — rather than an agency adoption in which couples often wait years on lists — the wish originally expressed by Jim Dykes came true. While pastor of MCC—Santa Monica, he was alerted to a Lesbian parishioner seeking a good home for her son. Jim and Lanny Dykes pledged to her annual reports on Robert's progress and the opportunity for mother and son to meet if Robert chooses when he is 16.

The new parents preferred an infant to an older child so they could offer the advantage of Lanny's pediatric expertise. "We both believe a child's personality is formed by age 3 and we wanted to influence our child's personality," said Jim.

The pastor confided, "The only time I felt uneasy was when our counselor at the Los Angeles County Adoption Service said she was receiving calls from Gay organizations offering their support. At first I was angry, feeling, 'How dare they meddle in my life.' Then our counselor told us that, as Gays, we needed all the support we could get." The couple said they were prepared to appeal to the California Supreme Court had they been turned down.

Now considering adoption of a second child, Lanny and Jim Dykes would likely choose not

to meet the mother. Said Jim, "I got to know Robert's mother well, and I wouldn't want my grief of separation again."

Their advice to other Gay couples: "If they want to adopt children, it's not hopeless. We are so often victims of our own homophobia."

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Viewpoint

Why Be Gulled Again

It's neither a new complaint nor a new story for those who have been long active in Gay ways. . .

Every so often some group, individual, or mongrel decides that the Gay market is the place to turn a fast buck. Gather 5,000 fags in one barn at \$10 per head, and that's \$50,000 clams for a night's digging. It's unlikely that any affair ever did that well, but it's that arithmetic which starts the dollar signs dancing overhead.

To sweeten the pill, the event is labeled a "Benefit." And whether your favorite charity ends up with 69 hundred or 69 cents, it's still a benefit. What the promoters walk away with are the expenses — which often resemble the federal budget.

"Here are responsible promoters and there are (for want of better phrasing — let us say) the shaky operations. The responsible consumer learns to distinguish:

1. No on-the-level impressario fears letting anyone know who is putting on the event, who they are, and what they have done before. Who in town they know and who knows them. When you can't find out or get vague answers, think twice.

2. If it's a legitimate benefit, the benefitting organization should have all the details. An agreement will be spelled out, and the benefitters will be in close contact with the benefactors. If the targeted charity knows nothing of its secret admirers, think twice.

3. A few phone calls should tell you what you want to know. If it's a mystery and no one can give you the who, what, why, and how, let it remain a mystery and perhaps the pitch men will take their medicine show to greener pastures.

4. Flim-flam artists arrive the day before yesterday and are gone tomorrow morning. Legitimate operations often book a year or six months in advance; they plan carefully, pay their bills, have nothing to hide, and seldom promise the moon.

P. Lorch

Letters...

BRITT GAFFE?

★ It appears that Mayor Feinstein unwittingly yet effectively emasculated the male Gay community by appointing Harry Britt to fill out the term of the late Harvey Milk.

Witness this excerpt from Britt's comments at his swearing in ceremony . . . "Decisions made about all human beings must be made by women because only they are free from macho mentality." . . . Does this simple-minded utterance mean that Mr. Britt proposes to cast his supervisory vote in accordance with decisions and advice passed on to him by Ms. Kronenberg and that small but rabidly dedicated group of Lesbian activists determined to run District 5 politics and ultimately all Gay San Francisco socio-political efforts.

The perverse Oedipus complex indicated by Mr. Britt's comments particularly when reviewed in the context of his position as a Supervisor is frightening. One of the mini-minorities within the world of Gay men is the type whose entire lifestyle evolves around his fascination with Lesbian companionship and his dominance by them. If Mr. Britt is of this persuasion we may find ourselves badly served.

I wish Mr. Britt would explain in detail what he means by a "macho mentality." If he means what I think he means I would like to ask him if he has ever seen anything but anything more pseudo macho than a "butch" Lesbian doing her public image bit.

We do not want a eunuch representing the Gay community in City Hall; we want a man who can represent everyone, Gay or straight, fairly and squarely; one who can vote a true conscience after considering the facts and the input from all of his constituents.

Jim Cameron
San Francisco

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ UNITE, NOT DIVIDE

★ The most evil thing that can happen to our just struggle for Gay freedom is to permit divisive forces to waste our valuable energy fighting our allies instead of our adversaries.

The bitter letter written by Marc Troy (B.A.R., Jan. 4) against Gay women plays into the hands of Bryantism and Brigotry. This negativism (yea, bitchery) has paralyzed Gay rights in New York City, but the No on 6 victory showed us Californians that success comes with alliances and unity.

Paul Cameron
Berkeley

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ NO STABLE IN CITY HALL

★ I cannot understand why Mr. Troy is so upset with Ms. Silver. There is a separation of church and state in this fair land of ours. The proper place for a nativity scene is in a church, not a public building such as the City Hall. Mr. Troy seems to forget that what is a lovely old tradition to some may just be a case of poor taste to others. Mr. Troy, please understand that many of us non-Christians do find nativity scenes, Santa's windows and the like offensive. What may seem a "simple" nativity scene to you is a large, offensive eyesore to me.

I am very glad that Supervisor Silver had the guts to do what she did. To me it shows that she is doing her job, protecting the rights of the little people, the ones who can't fight back against the oppressive majority. It is not conformity that we want, just equality. The City is made up of many groups and cultures and our rights must be respected. Some may see Ms. Silver as a liberal cry-baby, but I see her as a powerful woman looking out for my interests. Bless her.

Tal'Or Bar-Shank

QUOTABLES COMPILED

★ Is it true that Armistead Maupin is so rich now that instead of buying a poopier scooper he hires Divine him-or-herself?

Move over, St. Francis. Metasexual Exercise: Sit out of doors and sing until the birds and animals come to dance and play and sing along . . . City dwellers may produce the same effect by messaging their fish tank.

Last night I dreamed about Mark Hamill. I should sleep with me more often.

Since my letters have begun appearing in B.A.R., A LOT OF PEOPLE HAVE ASKED ME IF I'm Gay. Actually, I think a gentleman's sexual preference is a private matter between himself and the 7th Fleet.

Many of the women I have shared my fluid of life with have suggested to me that I might be Gay, but every one of the men has assured me that I'm not.

Strange of Jim
San Francisco

NOTE: Strange of Jim is regularly quoted in the S.F. Chronicle's Herb Caen column. His two paperbacks are "Hah! I Made Herb Cean & I Can Break Him" and "Metasexual Exercises" — available at unconventional bookstores.)

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ GETTING TO KNOW YOU

★ Just how open are you to criticisms and how well do you listen? Periodically I obtain Gay publications and usually find them BORING!! But I found your January 18 issue interesting enough to prompt this letter.

I approve of the National Enquirer's right to publish its views of the Gay world, and the image described is national. Now who is to prove otherwise? Not you, nor me, but "us." Build an image not on the words of a "great philosopher" but of the minds of every individual seeking a respected lifestyle. Communication, coordination, and consideration (among other things) are the foundations of a great organization.

I am but one who has yet to contribute to the Gay livelihood, and I am not alone. Give us a cause, and we will rally.

Davies
San Francisco

(ED. NOTE: The cause is all around us. The first giant step is coming out all the way.)

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ LET PATIENCE BE OUR GUIDE

★ Unfortunately, some people think they can INSTANTLY correct injustice by simply snapping their fingers. Realism dictates that most significant changes require hard work and patience.

In the Gay community, some think significant changes come about instantly. This is not true. In the recent, successful campaign against Prop. 6, hard work and patience proved their worth. We can also be thankful for the defeat in Seattle, and the demise of Anita Bryant and John Briggs. It can safely be predicted that an anti-discrimination job bill will pass the California legislature this year. And I personally believe that same-sex marriages will be "legal" within three years. We have a lot to be thankful for. Let us continue to work together, but remember that we must be PATIENT.

H. Levy
San Francisco

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Letters...

HERE WE GO AGAIN...

★ Your editorial on Anne Kronenberg, "The Widow Milk," was well taken. I agree with it fully. But the hysterical reaction of the butch Lesbians to the appointment of Harry Britt leads me to conclude that we Gay men should remember our relationship with such Lesbians.

To start with, I was completely baffled by the support that Kronenberg got from politically organized Gay men. I watched her on television during part of her speech in the Opera House after Harvey Milk's death. To me she had nothing to recommend her. She is not a fluent or inspiring speaker. Moreover, she rambled. She delivered her address in a flat nasal tone of voice. She seemed hopelessly out of her depth and far too young and immature to take up where Harvey left off.

I can hazard a guess as to why such a Lesbian should gain the support of so many Gay men — that they were unconsciously looking for a dominant female to replace the dominant mother so many of them probably had.

But why should Gay men allow themselves to be dominated and manipulated by this tiny minority of Lesbians within the much larger minority of Gay men? I believe in equality for women, but why exchange dominance by men over women for dominance by women over men.

Yet this is exactly what these butch Lesbians are aiming for. They see Gay men as weak and willing tools for their desire to dominate. And, of course, they wish to dominate women as well, no matter whether they are heterosexual or not.

Gay men don't need these Lesbians, although we should tolerate and accept them on an equal basis. But far more rewarding for us is to ally ourselves with heterosexual women who are sympathetic to Gay men in all walks of life. There are many such ambitious and capable women now coming to the fore — Dianne Feinstein, for example. We could not ask for a more helpful ally. Such women can break down prejudice in the straight community far more effectively than Lesbians ever can. And, like us, they like men, especially creative and intuitive men who do not regard them as sex objects.

So let the Lesbians damn Harry Britt as a Judas and just forget about them. They are more a hindrance than a help. good riddance to bad rubbish, as the saying goes.

Reed Vernon
San Francisco

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
★ I found the "Enquirer Exposes Center" article BOTH INTERESTING AND IRRITATING. You gave us good background on that newspaper's editorial content and a fine analysis of the significance of its proposed article. It was sheer genius to suggest that this article would create a backlash against the proposed center. Then you wisely proposed that a way to avoid the backlash from HUD would be for the Enquirer not to run their article at all.

I had high hopes for more controversy from your answers to "Should We March on Washington?" article. My compliments on your efforts to do some thorough opinion-seeking. However, the responses you got were insipid. I would like to have seen Sally Gearhart's reasons for not having the D.C. march, which she had sent to a march meeting.

Keep bringing the community your fine news stories.

To paraphrase Voltaire, "I may not like what you write, but I appreciate what you write."

Jean-Jacques
San Francisco

THE WHITE CIRCUS

★ The pro-Dan White defense campaign is in full swing. A slick lawyer in collaboration with some local headshrinker will be burning the midnight oil to find a loophole in the law, which in turn will be used to aid alleged killer White get off with the less severe of penalties. Already, this man has pleaded not guilty for reason of insanity.

But contrary to his "insanity" plea, I find it laughable when I see how the local straight newspapers and TV use every opportunity to tell us that "Dan White is just a normal (?), conservative, straight, All-American, next-door type of guy." All this undeserved praise for a killer is intended to make people believe that Dan White's virtuous qualities should be taken into consideration as for us not to think about the vicious and criminal act perpetrated on our two city leaders.

It's anybody's guess as to how long this whole mess is going to drag in the courts. I predict that this trial will be a lengthy one and will prove costly to the taxpayers.

On the other hand, it's most frightening when I hear upstanding political and professional figures state openly that "corruption and even assassinations in politics is just another way of life in America today and that we all might as well learn to live with it."

To put all of this in perspective, I must say that had the assassin been some poor, uneducated member of an ethnic minority or a member from a radical group, you can bet that the heaviest of penalties would be meted out accordingly, swiftly and without any further lengthy judicial process.

To prove once again that in this country there is indeed a double standard of justice.

Edward Dollak
San Francisco

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Lee R. Dailey
Sacramento

MARCH NOW

★ Re the March on Washington, CAN WE DO IT (B.A.R., Dec. 7). I would like to raise several critical points. Although the author of the article expresses some very sobering viewpoints, he also, I feel, is guilty of continuing an attitude that is widespread within the Gay community... now is not the time. This belief is not only wrong and dangerous to our cause but has been our burden for decades and is one we must overcome immediately.

How many of us have looked closely enough at the Gay rights movement to see that we (the Gay community) are not responsible for its beginning? In the 1960's the police in New York City raided a bar, and a band of Gays defended themselves by fighting back for the first time. Beginning then and with every incident since then we have been on the defensive. It is time for us to take the initiative and assume the offensive position. Let us carry our movement on our own merits, with all of the pride and dignity that we, up until now, have waited for some attack on us to pull together and strike back. Let us go out to the nation and say, "We are here and we will not wait for you to attack us again. You, Anita Bryant; you, John Briggs; and you, their constituents and supporters, have forced an issue into the public eye and you have forced us out of our closets, and as of now, we will never let you forget or pass us by again." How many more times must we be told that "OUR TIME IS NOW" before we are jarred out of our self-centered, falsely comfortable and down-right cowardly curse of anonymity?

Rex C. Sander

'CITY HALL STILL SUPPORTS GAY RIGHTS'... Molinari

Annual Gay Business People Banquet

"I feel that being here today as the Acting Mayor of San Francisco is somewhat like being Queen For A Day," was the opening remark that drew laughter from the members of the Golden Gate Business Association at its annual banquet. The speaker was John Molinari, President of the city's Board of Supervisors, who was Acting Mayor because Mayor Feinstein was in Washington, D.C.

"What happened in November," Molinari told the group, "did not spell an end to progressive thinking at City Hall." The reference was to the tragic deaths of Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk.

group was now fully "out of the closet," that Gay women were now being involved in GGBA and that Gay business associations were being formed in ten different cities — from the successful San Francisco experience.

Supervisor Harry Britt told the crowd of 400 in the Grand Ballroom of the Sheraton Plaza Hotel, "We are having a serious problem with the police here... I will do what I can, but you in a leadership role are going to have to work on it." His remarks prompted Police Chief Charles Gain to ask for a chance to speak and he angrily responded to Britt's comments.



President of the Board of Supervisors John Molinari — main speaker at Golden Gate Business Association's annual banquet at the Sheraton Plaza.

cone and Supervisor Harvey Milk.

"The new administration," the Supervisor urged, "was forged from tragedy but it still believes in human rights and Gay rights in our city. I want to assure you that in their spirit (Moscone and Milk) we are going to continue to do those things that they started and that they believed in — what they fought for and died for. That has, over the past 10 years, made this city different than most metropolitan cities."

The most dynamic statement of the evening may have been from the newly elected president of GGBA, Arthur Lazere, a certified public accountant. He emphasized that GGBA would soon open a local office with a staff employee, that the

Also installed during the evening were board members: Vice President Cynthia Negg, partner in the Reflections store on Haight St.; Secretary Joe Owen, a partner in a secretarial service; Treasurer Kenneth McCauley, a CPA; and board members Lin Cotton, a landscape architect; Atty. Rick Manning; John Schmidt, a founder of GGBA and insurance broker (Schmidt & Schmidt); Michael Scott, Advocate advertising executive; and Bob Yanes, a real estate agent.

Among the honored guests were State Senator Milton Marks, District Attorney Joe Freitas and Supervisors Carol Ruth Silver and Lee Dolson.

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Police Harassment?

Chief Gain Denies 'Crackdown', Asks for Specific Charges

by George Mendenhall

"I want to assure you and everyone in this city that as long as I am chief of police there will be lawful, fair police conduct. I will tolerate no less and you can be assured of that."

This was the message from Police Chief Charles Gain to 400 Gay people at the annual installation banquet of the Golden Gate Business Association on January 23.

Chief Gain asked for the podium to respond to earlier comments by Supervisor Harry Britt. Admitting his anger, the chief referred to Britt's reference to an increase of police presence in the Polk and Castro areas. Gain said he did not appreciate hearing about complaints in a public forum rather than personal phone calls to him "so I can personally investigate allegations."

During his three years in office, Gain has repeatedly expressed his friendliness to the Gay community and has openly encouraged the recruitment of Gay police officers. He has spoken to numerous Gay groups and opened his offices, through aide Michael O'Toole, to communication on problems relating to the police.

The recent complaints are repeated charges that uniformed officers are entering Gay bars in the Castro and Polk areas and making their presence known as a form of intimidation against patrons. There have also been uniformed officers cruising in the first two blocks of Castro Street off Market where there is a concentration of Gay bars. Citizens have been selectively questioned.

Gain told one activist that he is pleased that B.A.R. has editorialized for those who observe any alleged police misconduct to obtain badge numbers and other specific information so a formal complaint may be filed.

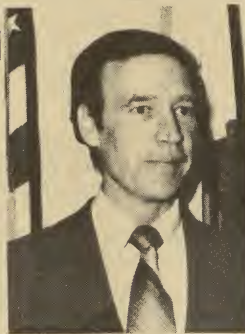
Mayor Dianne Feinstein centered in the controversy over alleged police harassment. She had called for law and order after becoming mayor in November. Gain explained to GGBA members "because of the change in city administration I know that some people believe that there is now license for officers to conduct themselves in a manner that would not hold up in court. I wish to emphasize that this is not the case whatever. I will not tolerate improper police conduct."

The chief urged, "Don't think for one minute that Mayor Feinstein is giving out any message that officers are to

conduct themselves in any manner that would result in harassment. She has not. I assure you of that."

To the repeated rumors that Gain might be replaced by a less liberal chief, the executive said, "We are getting along good... We are in agreement. There is no problem. She and I talk virtually every single day. We are very compatible as far as law enforcement goes."

Gain told the GGBA group that citizens should not look for a "law and order" reason why



S.F. Police Chief Gain

he is now wearing his police uniform. He received laughter when he said, "The bottom line is, for \$52,000 a year would you wear the uniform?"

In a subsequent development, Supervisor Britt, Mission Station Captain George Jeffreys, and Britt aide Dick Pabich met on January 25 (a meeting scheduled before the GGBA dinner). Pabich told B.A.R. that there will now be a series of meetings, both public and private, concerning Gays and the police. He said that the chief appears to have acted to halt the aggressive police presence on Castro Street. Pabich added that a private security police officer who had been causing some of the difficulty in the Castro area has been dismissed.

Drag Featured in Enquirer Blast at SF Gay Center Idea

The *National Enquirer* featured a large photo of five men in drag in its January 23 article attacking a local proposal for a new Gay Services Center with partial federal funding.

The sensational newspaper, with 6 million circulation, emphasized in the caption under the photograph that the center would be a place where homosexuals would "frolic and dance." It also quotes an unnamed Gay leader here who it says revealed that the center would be a place where Gay people "could get up and dance with each other, have costume parties, crown themselves empresses and play all kinds of games." The proposed center is contemplated as uniting under one roof Gay services and organizations.

Wayne Friday, President of

the Tavern Guild, told B.A.R. that he never made the statements attributed to him in the article. Friday was one of several local people that were interviewed by a person who said he was a "Los Angeles Times reporter" named Ian MacDonald (who B.A.R. later revealed was actually a writer/researcher for the *Enquirer*). Friday denies that he told MacDonald, "The Beaux Arts Ball is an example of the kind of thing that would be held in such a community center."

The truth about the proposed center was distorted by the *Enquirer*. The article implied that federal Housing and Urban Development was now considering a proposal when actually no proposal is before HUD at this time. The idea to request \$375,000 in available federal funds for a new center came from Gay Community Services Center, Inc. — a group of 25 Gay people from 30 different Gay groups. The idea was approved unanimously by two government bodies (the Mayor's Community Development agency and the city's Board of Supervisors), although a specific proposal has not been delivered to HUD for consideration.

Attorney Matt Coles, an official of the new Center, Inc. group, is also quoted in the article. He told B.A.R. that MacDonald presented himself

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as a "Los Angeles Times reporter."

The building at 330 Grove Street is currently called "the Gay Community Center" by many Gay people. It is occupied by the Pride Foundation on a month-to-month agreement with the Redevelopment Agency. The 330 Grove Street site is part of an area designated as a parking facility for the Performing Arts Center, currently under construction.

Some speculate that HUD, when it does receive a specific plan for a center, may be pressured to reject such a project because of negative reaction to the *Enquirer* article.

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'Just Fruits' Cop Transferred by Gain

Police Sgt. Edward Fowlie, the subject of citizen complaints in the Tenderloin, has been transferred by Police Chief Charles Gain to the night club area, North Beach. Gain personally analyzed complaint investigations submitted to him through his Internal Affairs division based on reports from Gay activist Hank Wilson and tenants in the Crystal Hotel, which he manages.

Wilson reported an incident just before Christmas in which several of his tenants were arrested and many others questioned following an alleged attempt by a tenant to sell a narcotic to a plainclothes officer. In the melee that followed, five people were arrested on a variety of charges, including "attempting to lynch a policeman" and "battery on a police officer," according to Wilson. Several people were allegedly beaten.

When Wilson went to the police station, he was told by the desk sergeant, Officer Edward Fowlie, that his concern about his tenants' incarceration was not valid as "They are only fruits." Wilson filed a complaint against Fowlie over the incident.

Sgt. Fowlie called Wilson to his side in front of another Wilson-managed hotel, The Ambassador, on January 9. It is alleged that he asked Wilson, "How is your health?" and "How is your life expectancy?" Wilson told B.A.R. that he had moved to the front of his hotel so the conversation could be observed through a window by a desk clerk, and Fowlie had asked, "Why do you always need witnesses?" Wilson filed another complaint, charging that his life had been threatened.

Gain took action in transferring Fowlie and later told a local Gay business association that he would not tolerate police misconduct. He called for Gay citizens to report any alleged harassment directly to him.

Wall Street Journal Changing on Gay Issue?

Major articles of significance to the Gay liberation movement appeared in the prestigious *Wall Street Journal*, the bible of the financial community, in 1978 — one was a positive analysis of the movement itself. Another was an objective analysis of the reason *The Advocate* could not obtain major advertisers. Two events in February indicated possible shift in policy at the *Journal*:

A New York *Journal* editor, Fred Taylor, sent a memo to his staff after an article appeared in the newspaper headlined, "Some Top Concerns Rule Out Job Bias

Against Gay People." It read: "They aren't gay to me and a lot of other people; they are homosexuals and should be so identified at all times, unless gay is the title of the organization, or is used in a quote. In short, gay is not a synonym for homosexual, no matter what the gays say." The memo was discovered by Alexander Cockburn of the *Village Voice*.

In the January 22, 1979, issue of the *Journal* a lengthy commentary appeared by Robert Reilly, National Director of the Intercollegiate Studies Institute in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania. This was not an official editorial of the *Journal* but the editors evidently thought it was significant to pass on

Reilly's commentary. In part, this is what he wrote:

"I do not believe that they (homosexuals) should be persecuted or treated differently from anyone else. However, I would never do any of them (among whom I do number some friends) the disservice of telling them that homosexuality was perfectly normal, any more than I would tell an alcoholic that I thought his excessive drinking was just fine.

"But when homosexuality is elevated to and advanced on the level of moral principle (as was done by the new mayor of San Francisco, Dianne Feinstein, who announced her 'moral obligation' to appoint a

homosexual in the late Harvey Milk's place as city supervisor), then action must be taken to defend the health of the community."

Penn. University OK's Job Rights

Philadelphia

The University Council of the University of Pennsylvania has unanimously adopted a non-discriminatory clause giving equal employment rights based on "sexual or affectional preference." Activists here emphasize that this is not "just another Gay rights clause" because the new measure

includes a definite complaint procedure available to all school employees.

The University's legal counsel and the college's president, Martin Meyerson, assisted the Philadelphia Lesbian and Gay Task Force in formulating the extension of the non-discrimination policy.

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'Perversion' Comment Stirs Progress Readers

"A city is really fouled up when its mayor can make perversion a twisted test of qualification for public office. If you're normal, you're not eligible."

This comment appeared in "A Little Retrogression" column in the *San Francisco Progress* newspaper on January 24. The regular feature is written by Paul Lovinger, who refused to discuss the column or to tell B.A.R. anything about his background.

Charles Rozema, a Castro area activist, is one of those writing to Harry Buckel, publisher of the *Progress*. He wrote, "Homosexuals come in all shapes, sizes, colors, professions and socio-economic strata. It is no more 'abnormal' or 'perverted' to be Gay than it is to be left-handed and undoubtedly a significant portion of San Francisco veterans are also Gay men and women."

The full *Progress* item by Lovinger read as follows:

UPSIDE-DOWN TOWN — There is a kind of elf that hangs around print shops and plays with the type when nobody is looking. For instance, in a recent column of the *Curious Camera*, on how to make San Francisco a better city, interviewee Charlotte Ellam's statement ended up in the air instead of thus: "This city is losing its idea of what's normal when we have money for a gay parade and not enough money for a veterans' parade."

Good point. Now one might add: a city is really fouled up when its mayor can make perversion a twisted test of qualification for public office. If you're normal, you're not eligible.

Mike Curb Appoints Prop. 6 Supporter

SACRAMENTO

Lieutenant Governor Mike Curb has appointed Rex Hime, who supported the anti-Gay teachers initiative on the November ballot, as one of his top advisors. Hime has become Curb's Administrative Aide for Northern California.

In an interview with B.A.R., Hime said that while he personally supported the measure by Senator John Briggs and told people of his intent to vote for it, he did not urge others to vote for it. He said his belief in barring Gay teachers and administrators from the public schools is based on his "moral conviction." He said he is a Baptist.

The personable Hime explained his position for a half hour to B.A.R., repeatedly emphasizing that he has homosexual friends and that he hoped that he would be recognized as a person who is open to discussion on any subject and with any persons.

The Curb appointee insisted that homosexuality was "a moral issue that people should not be voting on." He was told that many Gay activists per-



Mike Curb

ceive Gay rights as a human rights issue and not as a moral issue, that it might be difficult for some Gay people to seek help from him on homosexual issues if that is his viewpoint. He replied that he did not use his conviction to campaign against Gay rights, as is done by singer Anita Bryant and Senator Briggs.

Curb's aide stressed that it is "a personal matter" with him — "between me and God. I don't think that either God or Jesus Christ went around saying that you should force people to accept your philosophy."

Hime was asked how he expected to cooperate with homosexuals or to have their input if he sees homosexuals "as a class" as immoral. He replied, "Well, there are Christians who are immoral. No one is any more immoral than anyone else. It is just that when one accepts Christ they have been forgiven. I don't think

Christians walk around thinking that they are better than anyone else."

Hime added, "I have never attempted to take any views that you hold away from you" and that he did not see any problem in communicating with homosexuals in his new liaison position. B.A.R. replied, "That may be true but you would bar homosexuals from paid positions in the public schools, denying homosexuals employment." This was followed by a lengthy and unresolved discussion of what Proposition 6 did and did not do with Hime contending that it was necessary to have the measure to bar teachers who "publicly display their homosexuality." ... GM

'Midnight Express' Avoids Gay Love

The real-life Billy Hayes has complained about the homosexual sequences in the motion picture *MIDNIGHT EXPRESS*. Hayes had described in his book a loving, caring relationship that he had with a male Swedish inmate.

In the film version the young Hayes associates with "Erich" only briefly when the blond nordic kisses Hayes who responds at first with an acceptance and then with a coy rejection. In the book Hayes dramatically expresses that this relationship was an intense bond between two men who were desperately to need each other's love.

Director Alan Parker states that he treated the brief scene the same as "between a guy and a girl." He said he avoided the real-life depiction of the homosexual relationship because "people are not as sophisticated outside of New York."

Billy Hayes thought the film should have told it as it was and that the film treatment of his Gay relationship "is a cop out."

Lesbian Baby Story Was Press Rip-Off

LONDON

The story of artificial insemination of Lesbian mothers here received sensational treatment in the press throughout the world in January. A blatant violation of journalistic ethics by London's *Evening News* was responsible for the original news story.

The *News* sent staff members, unidentified, to Sappho Publications, a Lesbian publishing collective. In their association with staffers at Sappho, they learned the addresses of Lesbians and visited their households. They took photographs with concealed cameras. The result was a sensational story that identified Lesbians who had been artificially inseminated. The major news bureaus around the world

picked up the story.

The British Press Council refused to recognize complaints against the *Evening News*. It ruled, "the subject was undoubtedly a matter of public interest and concern about which information was not otherwise available." The council was set up to preserve the ethics of the press. It is an official government agency. Britain has the most sensationalized newspapers in the world.

A Labour member of Parliament, Maureen Colquhoun, has demanded that the council be disbanded. She said, "This body has long lost the confidence of the House of Commons and responsible journalists. The council protects no one except the rising circulation of the gutter press. Its decision on this story is part of the buildup in Britain against the homosexual minority."

Huge Police Payoffs Alleged in Bermuda

A recent police raid of a Gay bar in Hamilton, Bermuda, ended in a massive payoff to an officer by 25 detained patrons. The incident was reported in *Gaysweek* (New York) from "informed sources."

Gaysweek reported that 25 patrons were taken from the El Matador bar at 2:00 am. Officers entered the second floor bar from the only accessible entrance — a ground floor straight bar. Forty tourists watched the Gay people being led away.

An unidentified police officer demanded \$200 from each man detained while the men were in jail. The alternative, he said, was 20 days at hard labor digging gypsum from quarries on the island. *Gaysweek* reported that all of those arrested arranged to pay the unofficial "fine" and were released without records being recorded of their detention.

Bermuda is a British colony, less than 600 miles east of North Carolina. About 20 of the 150 islands in this area are collectively called "Bermuda" with Hamilton (3,000 citizens) as the capital. In Bermuda about two-thirds of the people are African or of mixed descent and the rest are primarily British. Almost all are Protestant. Tourism is a major business.

The British government has a local governor who has virtual dictatorial control. In December, 1977, the governor and his top aide were assassinated and the colony has been under strict military-like control since then. (Hammond Almanac)

Current law is vigorously anti-homosexual with a 10-year sentence possible for a same-sex act and up to 5 years for solicitation. The Spartacus International Gay Guide advises that Gay people stay away from Bermuda.

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Politics & People

Politics & Poker...

Wayne Friday

They are already lining up to run against Dianne Feinstein in November — friends of Fred Furth confirm that the popular attorney will indeed run for Mayor; among others being to run are Milton Marks, Judge Ollie Marie-Victoire, Willie Brown, etc., etc., etc. Meanwhile, Quentin Kopp and Mrs. Feinstein, close political friends a few short months ago, have become the bitterest of enemies... liberal Republican Ken Maddy running for the vacant Senate seat in the San Joaquin Valley... former Alice Toklas President Bob Cramer being mentioned as a candidate for Supe in District 7...

Chief Gain received the only standing ovation at the Golden Gate Business dinner; meanwhile, rumors persist that Mrs. Feinstein is looking for a way to dump the popular Chief (one City Hall insider said he doubted if Gain would last until June)... don't invite Assemblyman Art Agnos and Jerry Brown to the same smoke-filled room... State Board of Equalization member William M. Bennett announcing he will run against Alan Cranston in the 1980 Demo primary... who says crime doesn't pay — the bank handling the "Mary Ann White Fund" reports they have received over \$50,000, and still climbing... Quentin Kopp replaced Mrs. Feinstein as guest speaker at dinner of San Francisco Forward later this month; the topic of his speech is "My Future Plans"... the Republicans picked Detroit as the site of their 1980 convention; Michigan has a Republican Governor but Detroit has a popular Black Democrat Mayor...

Willie Brown introduced legislation to reduce the penalty for cultivation of small amounts of marijuana to a \$100 fine; the measure would permit a person to grow up to three plants and a household up to six plants with the \$100 fine a maximum penalty... the governor's appointment of Yvonne Burke to the University of California Board of Regents makes her the first Black ever named to the board... one of my favorite people, Lillian Sing, named as chairperson of the Community College Board... Jerry Brown has reportedly leveled with Republican Lt. Governor Mike Curb and told him frankly what we all know: Brown will run for President... Senator Marks the only Republican to vote against the Governor's constitutional convention scheme... meanwhile, the State Senate in Nevada voted again last week 14-3 to kill the Equal Rights Amendment... Nelson Rockefeller was one of New York's greatest governors... the San Francisco Bay Guardian did a seething story on Willie Brown...

Don James elected new President of Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights (CRIR)... Leo McCarthy came out strong for Gay rights at recent State Demo convention... Tom Edwards says he is serious about running for Supe in District 5; meanwhile, Harry Britt busily mending fences all over the District (Don't count this guy out too early!)... candidates lining up already in District 4 to run against Ella Hill Hutch, and her seat isn't up for grabs for another two years — Hutch's voting record a big disappointment to Gays and other minorities who worked in her last campaign... and, in District 7 there is a move underway to run Simeon White against Bob Gonzales this year.

'Solicitation' Decision Expected From High Court

Gay Rights Advocates, a San Francisco legal firm, is awaiting a decision from the California Supreme Court that could at least partially declare the state's sexual solicitation law (647a) unconstitutional. The decision could be released this month, following arguments heard by the court last summer.

Advocates Attorney Matt Coles explained to B.A.R. that the case (Pryor vs. Municipal Court) could be the first break in declaring the entire solicitation law unconstitutional. The Los Angeles City Attorney has admitted that 647a is unconstitutional when applied to soliciting sex to be performed in private because sex in private is now legal in California. It is expected that the high court may rule that the prohibition of solicitation is valid when it is for sex that would be performed in public.

In a related case, a 25-year-old Lawrence, Massachusetts, male has had a case against him for sexual solicitation dismissed in Superior Court. Judge Frances Gibbons ruled that the arrest by local police in a restroom violated the defendant's rights because "being a

lewd person in speech or behavior" is not grounds for an arrest.

In the Lawrence case, two police officers had arrested the male at a rest area on Route 3 at 2:00 AM after he allegedly solicited an 18-year-old male who officers had planted as a decoy.

Judge Frances Gibbons noted that "private speech cannot constitute lewdness," based on a earlier (Dec. 2) decision in a similar Massachusetts case (Commonwealth vs. Templeton).

Hustler Honors John Briggs

Senator John Briggs has been honored by *Hustler* magazine in its February edition. He was named "Asshole of the Month."

Hustler, which has 1.5 million readers, ran this editorial comment: "He has acted in such an unchristian manner during the campaign that he qualifies as one of the biggest assholes in recent history. After



Briggs

the defeat of Proposition 6, the senator refused to accept the mandate of the people, who made it crystal-clear that they did not want repressive laws against the Gay community.

"There is enough sexual repression in our society without total cretins like Briggs trying to institutionalize it in law. We only hope California voters will remain vigilant, as assholes such as John Briggs rarely fold their tents and fade into the night."

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Womanalysis

Process & Politics

by Priscilla Alexander

There is a joke that has been making the rounds, and even was in Herb Caen's column, albeit in a distorted fashion. How many feminists does it take to screw in a light bulb? Five: one to screw in the bulb and four to discuss the process. What was missing in the final steps of the selection of a supervisor in District 5 was a discussion of the process.

It is a common experience for women to be catered to when they have something men want, and ignored when it is no longer convenient to be concerned with their needs. It is also a common experience for women to have their ideas, contributions and wishes ignored. This is often the pattern in heterosexual relationships, and is a major factor in the process by which many women become, or realize they are, Lesbians in their thirties and forties. The feminist movement has enabled women to take themselves seriously in ways that were not possible before Betty Friedan wrote "The Feminine Mystique."

When Harvey Milk was shot, this whole community was devastated. As time has gone on, the reality of the loss has only become greater: Harvey Milk was not only the first openly Gay Supervisor of such

very quickly the idea gained support from all over the city. Thousands of telegrams, letters and petitions poured into Mayor Feinstein's office urging her selection. Neighborhood organizations from all parts of District 5 supported her. She was supported not only by Lesbians and Gay men, but by many heterosexual women and men. She was supported not only by people on the left, but by many people from the business community. Her support was far beyond the group that chose her.

Anne Kronenberg works well with the coalition style of government that is so necessary to District 5. She is familiar with all of the issues confronting District 5 and the whole city. She has strong connections with both the men's

name was on it besides Anne's, and noticing as well the name of Harry Britt, who was at the hub of Anne's campaign.

On a Tuesday, after all the possible names seemed to be exhausted, Anne Kronenberg met with Mayor Feinstein. The Mayor has admitted that in that interview she told Anne that, although she was considering some other options, Anne was still a contender. At the conclusion of that meeting, Anne understood that she could still become the Supervisor. There is widespread feeling in the women's communities (both Lesbian and heterosexual) that Mayor Feinstein could not delay the appointment much longer, and that she would have had to appoint Anne.

On Wednesday, Harry Britt met with Mayor Feinstein, and agreed to be Supervisor of District 5. In this decision, Anne Kronenberg was not consulted. I feel the way I have felt in thousands upon thousands of dealings with straight men, that my trust has been betrayed. I did not expect that to happen with Gay men.

Harry Britt has said a lot of

A feminist look at the male "sting" in District 5.

and the women's communities, and is deeply concerned with both groups' issues, which are not always the same.

Mayor Feinstein did not want to appoint Anne Kronenberg, probably because she could not control her. She interviewed, or her staff interviewed, an estimated forty people who were interested in the appointment. I read a list in the paper one morning, and I remember noticing that only one woman's

things since becoming Supervisor. He has said that for all human problems, men must look to women for the answers, that men are too involved with their machismo. But his agreement to accept the appointment without consulting Anne shows that he does not understand that to feminists the process and the goal are the same. The means are the end.

All during this period, I have sensed that Harry Britt was

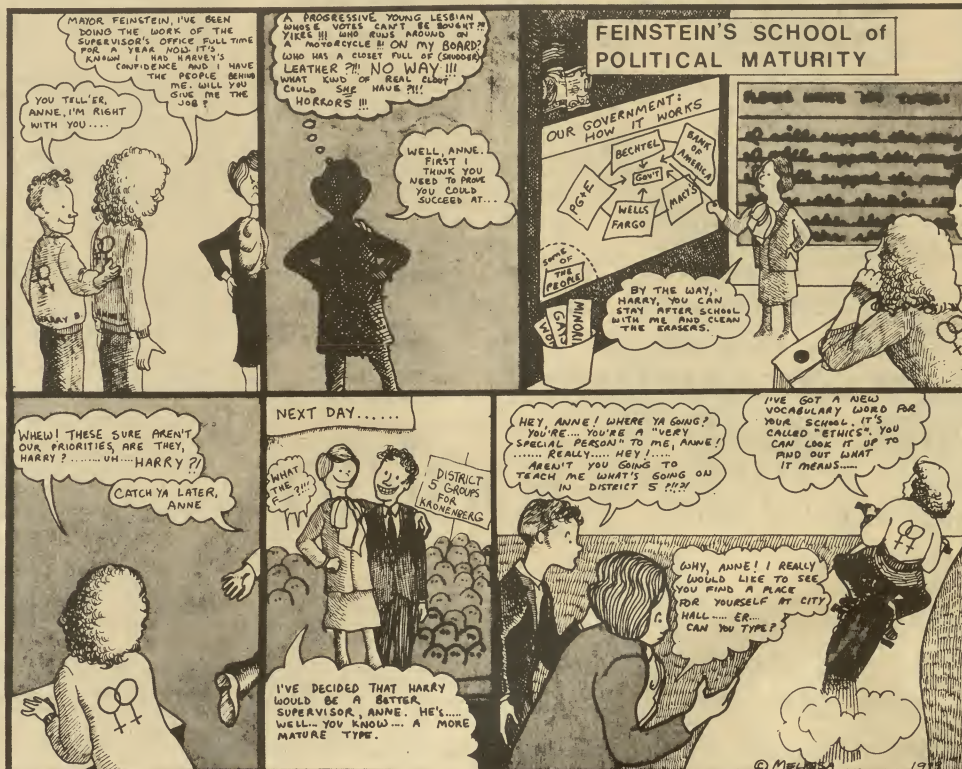


Anne Kronenberg

a large city; he was not only a man on his way up. Harvey Milk was becoming a feminist and, as a Gay activist with strong feminist sensibility that was beginning to color all of his public actions, he was becoming a major figure in our movement.

It was only with his death that I began to fully realize how important he was. His death left a tremendous gap.

In the days that followed his death, a lot of political decisions had to be made and Anne Kronenberg emerged as a nominant for the seat in District 5. The decision to support her began with the small group of people who worked most closely with Harvey. But



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NEED TO MEET
YOU COULD
SUCCEED AT...

A PROGRESSIVE YOUNG LESBIAN
WHOSE VOTES CAN'T BE BOUGHT IN
PIERS!!! WHO RUDE AROUND ON
A MOTORCYCLE!! ON MY BOARD?
WHO HAS A CLOSET FULL OF (SMOVED)
LEATHER?!! NO WAY!!!
WHAT KIND OF REAL CLOSET
COULD SHE HAVE?!!
HORRORS!!!

WHEW! THESE SURE AREN'T
OUR PRIORITIES, ARE THEY,
HARRY?..... OH..... HARRY??

CATCH YA LATER,
ANNE

NEXT DAY.....

WHAT THE?!!

DISTRICT 5 GROUPS
FOR KRONENBERG

I'VE DECIDED THAT HARRY
WOULD BE A BETTER
SUPERVISOR, ANNE. HE'S.....
WELL, YOU KNOW... A MORE
MATURE TYPE.

HEY, ANNE! WHERE YA GOING?
YOU'RE... YOU'RE A "VERY
SPECIAL PERSON" TO ME, ANNE!
..... REALLY..... HEY!.....
TEACH ME WHAT'S GOING ON
IN DISTRICT 5?!!

WHY, ANNE! I REALLY
WOULD LIKE TO SEE
YOU FIND A PLACE
FOR YOURSELF AT CITY
HALL..... ER.....
CAN YOU TYPE?

I'VE GOT A NEW
VOCABULARY WORD FOR
YOUR SCHOOL, IT'S
CALLED "ETHICS". YOU
CAN LOOK IT UP TO
FIND OUT WHAT
IT MEANS.....

ambivalent about the appointment. From things he said to me, I got the sense that while he supported Anne, he also wanted the position. I do not blame him for wanting the job, I do blame him for the way he got it.

Many of you heard me speak in Union Square last spring. I said that for Lesbians to work with Gay men, we had to overcome a lot of distrust, and that if Gay men wanted us to work with them, they had to recognize our existence. I mentioned such relatively superficial things as the need to say Chair instead of Chairman, woman instead of girl, and so on. What I failed to mention was that these words are just symptoms of a more profound attitude that exists in this society, and in every society on earth that is of any size, that women do not count.

I hope I can continue to work with men in the Gay movement. Our right to live the way we choose, to love whom we choose, is too important. It is as important as my right to be considered a full human being, not an adjunct to Adam's rib. But women who work in the Gay movement are going to have to be taken seriously, and given the basic respect that people with power are given. If we have no power with Gay men, where will we have it?

Priscilla Alexander

San Francisco Results

Proposition 6 Vote Analyzed

By Bruce Pettit

Supervisory District 5, which includes the Castro area, sounded San Francisco's loudest NO on the anti-Gay teachers initiative on the November ballot.

The city cast a 25% YES vote with District 8 (former Supervisor Dan White's constituency) casting the largest YES (39%). The smallest number of YES votes were in the late Supervisor Harvey Milk's District 5 (13%).

District 5 (Castro/Haight/Noe Valley) had the highest percentage of NO votes (87%) and the lowest number of abstentions on 6 (4%). The area also had the greatest number of voters (27,363) in all 11 districts.

The overall state vote was 58% NO (3,920,265) and 42% YES (2,788,765).

This is the final tally in the San Francisco vote on Proposition 6:

DISTRICT	YES	NO	ABSTAINING
1—Richmond	4,751—24%	14,844—76%	1,319—(6%)
2—Marina/Pacific Heights	4,762—21%	18,314—79%	1,114—(5%)
3—Chinatown/North Beach	2,857—20%	11,579—80%	1,177—(7%)
4—Western Addition	2,923—18%	13,456—82%	1,814—(10%)
5—Castro/Haight	3,335—13%	23,020—87%	1,008—(4%)
6—Mission	2,686—20%	11,034—80%	1,026—(7%)
7—Downtown/Bayview	2,864—27%	7,905—73%	1,757—(14%)
8—Excelsior/Portola	5,815—39%	8,981—61%	1,744—(10%)
9—Ingleside/Glen Park	4,869—26%	13,533—74%	1,649—(8%)
10—Parkside/Lake Merced	8,220—35%	15,071—65%	1,406—(6%)
11—Sunset/Twin Peaks	6,099—28%	15,752—72%	1,281—(5%)
Absentee Ballots	6,903—36%	12,295—64%	1,504—(8%)
S.F. TOTAL	56,084—25%	165,784—75%	16,799—(7%)

VOLUNTEERS SIGN UP FOR VD CAMPAIGN

A volunteer effort in the war against VD begins the New Year in San Francisco. Twelve volunteers have signed up to provide assistance to San Francisco City Clinic's Bath House Screening Program for the detection and treatment of Syphilis and Gonorrhea.

The program was initiated nine months ago to extend testing for asymptomatic cases of venereal disease to the city's Gay community. Asymptomatic infections in which symptoms are not present or hidden increase the risk of spreading disease. San Francisco currently ranks first in rates of Syphilis and fourth in Gonorrhea among major U.S. cities.

City Clinic's Bath Screening Program has been responsible for testing over seven hundred patrons and treating six persons with early syphilis and 38 with gonorrhea. However, faced with recent Prop. 13 staff reductions, this successful and well-received program was in danger of closing down. The response from the Gay community to the volunteer request will allow the screening to continue.

The volunteers will assist in promoting the service and signing up persons to be tested. Jim Stuart of S.F. Gay Rap, from which most volunteers signed up, has been designated Volunteer Coordinator.

TESTING SCHEDULE

FEBRUARY

Wednesday, Feb. 7, 7:00-10:00pm, Club San Francisco.

Friday, Feb. 16, 8:00-10:00pm, 21st St. Baths.

Tuesday, Feb. 20, 11:30-1:30pm, 18th & Castro.

Monday, Feb. 26, 8:00-10:00pm, Liberty Baths.

MARCH

Wednesday, March 7, 7:00-10:00pm, Club San Francisco.

Friday, March 16, 8:00-10:00pm, 21st St. Baths.

Tuesday, March 20, 11:30-1:30pm, 18th & Castro.

Monday, March 26, 8:00-10:00pm, Liberty Baths.

Truck Stop Offers More Than Rest?

KALAMAZOO, MI

The Highway Patrol here claims that it has been forced to crack down on alleged homosexual activity at a local truck "rest stop" because the truckers are complaining. Kalamazoo Gay activists do not believe that story and are protesting the arrest of 39 men, two of them high school teachers.

There are 73 such rest stops in Michigan. Officers claim that they all create cruising and sexual activity problems.

Those arrested range in age from 18 to 66 and include married men in jobs ranging from laborers to businessmen. They were apprehended after police took photographs of activities using a concealed camera in the ceiling of one restroom.

Over 70 students and 21 parents have united in an attempt to have the two suspended arrested teachers reinstated.

Jim Bump, a local school administrator, stated, "The mass arrests reminds me of the infamous witch hunts of the early 50's and a man named Joe McCarthy."

ERA Update

Nevada, Wyoming Disagree on Rights

The attempt to obtain three more states for the Equal Rights Amendment continues in a holding pattern. Approval of the necessary 38 states to add women's rights to the constitution is currently stalemated at 35 states.

The latest developments:

Virginia: The measure has been introduced in the House. It was defeated two years ago by the Senate — but by a narrow vote.

Nevada: The House and

the Senate have both overwhelmingly defeated ERA. In November the public voted on ERA, a 2-1 decision against it.

Wyoming: The Senate voted 16-13 to not rescind the state's 1973 ratification of ERA. A measure to rescind in the House is given a slim chance of success.

Four states have rescinded their original pro-ERA votes, but the validity of these moves has not been ruled upon by Congress. The four states are Kentucky, Tennessee, Idaho and Nebraska. Kentucky's action was vetoed by the Governor.

The National Organization for Women has urged a boycott of the 15 states that have not ratified the ERA. Several states have admitted that they have lost millions of dollars in convention money because of the NOW boycott.

The boycotted states are Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Utah and Virginia.

Congress has set June 30, 1982, as the deadline for ERA supporters to obtain 38 states

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Sweet Lips Sez

Empress Vote, Feb. 3

by Dick Walters

The Twin Peaks is having an auction on Wednesday, Feb. 14, from 8:00pm on. This auction is for Mr. & Mrs. Smith, the 80-year-old couple that have been burned out of their Castro Street home four times . . . This is a Community Auction, and a trustee has been set up to receive and administer the funds raised. Leave auctionable items at the Twin Peaks or call 824-8664 for pick up or donations. Let's all get out and join in this worthwhile affair.

That hunk of a man, Gary Robinson, can now be seen on the plank at Kimo's. Kimo's is one of the most interesting bars on Polk Street for "people watching."

The Nothing Special on Castro still has the one and only "Mitzie." Danny Marsh, on the plank . . . you do a great job there, Mitzie.

The one and only Tacky Ruth is still at the Stallion and doing a fantastic job of letting people know where it all hangs out . . . love ya, Tacky!

Have you tried the weekend brunches at the Club Dori? . . . the sausage patties are the greatest; right, Lorelei? Nice to see Marlowe still working there.

Don't forget to vote on Saturday the 3rd for the Empress candidate of your choice . . . it is the votes that count . . . voting is in Gordon's Showroom at 118 Jones Street from Noon till 6:00pm. Coronation will be at the Galleria, and Char and Jim Bonko are doing a great job on the "Disco Fantasy" theme . . . wait until you see the section that Blossom of the Carriage Trade Florist is doing for Bob Golovich's party — it is out of sight . . . thank you, Bob and Blossom.

A great party for Ginger at Gilmore's last Friday evening . . . you certainly know how to get people to turn out for these functions, Ginger. Seems as if Daddy Joe Roland of Queen Mary's Pub and Gangway fame has come out for the first time and is ENDORSING Ginger for Empress.

If you are down in Redwood City, drop by 'The Answer' which is now under NEW ownership.

Haight Street certainly has a great group of bars . . . the Deluxe with Danny Woodland is hot, really great hunks . . . and, of course, Le Disque is one of the two hot, hot dance bars there — the I-Beam being the other one . . . these dance bars are packed nitely, so get out there early, especially on weekends.

South of Market still has the favorite and long-lasting Fe-

Be's . . . if you can't find happiness at Fe-Be's, you won't find it anywhere; right, Don and John? Down the street still stands the Ramrod with their great movies, etc., and some of the nicest dudes in town.

Chris's Wooden Horse on lower Polk Street has "Every Day is a Party Day." Of course, they still have Duffy on the plank.

Dick Petrov is back from his vacation in Mexico very well tanned and back doing his nitely stints at Gilmore's with Paul Reuhl and yours truly, so drop by and say hi.

Portland wants to do a "Mini" Hanging of Sweet Lips, April 9, with a group leaving here by plane on Thursday and returning on Sunday with a group of Portlandites for a three-day "Hanging" in San Francisco . . . but more about this later . . . if you are interested, contact me soon. It'll be a package deal — airfare and hotel.

Don't forget the Cable Car Awards at the Galleria on Sunday the 4th . . . this is a blast and tickets are available at the 'P.S.', Gilmore's, and King's Court (421-3051). Hurry, as they are going fast; right, Art and Bob Cramer?

Luscious Lorelei must be up to something, as she has been losing weight lately . . . what is going on, girl? . . . Hi. Mavis and Wayne Friday!

Humane Adoption Denied Gay Male

CALGARY, Canada

Jim Smith is a 12-year-old autistic and mentally handicapped boy. His best friend who has spend thousands of hours helping him adjust to life is Jerry Kissinger. Kissinger would like to adopt Jim, but he has been denied — because he is a homosexual.

Kissinger met Jim here when he was an institutional aide at a center for the mentally handicapped. It is accepted that he has been the most important person in Jim's life over the past two years. The two have developed a warm father-son relationship. Jim's natural parents approve of the adoption, knowing that Kissinger is Gay.

It was revealed that Kissinger was Gay after he applied for adoption. He learned that the Foster Care Department here apparently has a policy of denying adoption of children by homosexuals. The agency now denies this, but the investi-

gator, Vendla Amy, told him of such a policy. The agency is quiet about why it denied the adoption.

Kissinger told Toronto's *The Body Politic* that he will appeal the decision and demand an explanation. In the meantime, he continues to see Jim and to assist him with his problems.

The potential foster parent believes, "working with a foster child provides the best combination of work and lifestyle. I can think of no better way to spend my time than to live with and care for another human being."

Great Outdoors Spreads North

Great Outdoors, the Los Angeles-based organization providing outdoor recreational activities for bisexual and Gay people, has opened a San Francisco office.

The group's first Bay Area outing will be a hiking weekend Feb. 17-19 at Sugarloaf Ridge near Santa Rosa. To request information, contact the group at its new office at 519 Castro St., San Francisco, CA 94114. (415) 431-9759.

The main office is located at 7906 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90046; (213) 656-0035. The first Southern California outing for 1979 is a Feb. 23-25 camp-out at Falcon Camp in the Cleveland National Forest.

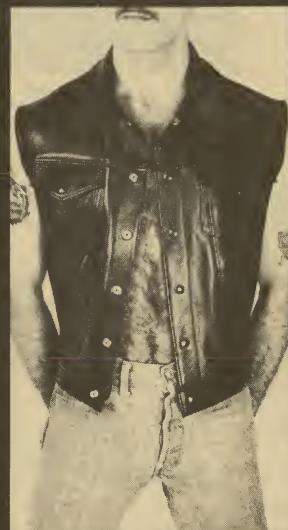
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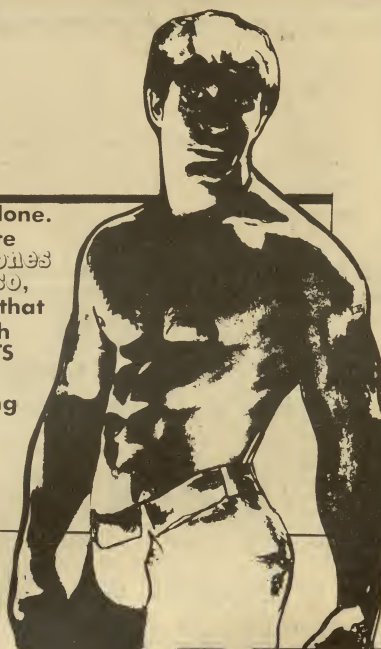
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Aerial view of Ayers Rock and Mt. Olga in background — Australia's Northern Territory.

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B.A.R.-SECTION I FEBRUARY 1, 1979 PAGE 16

Wander Lust

Australia — Peachy Melbourne

by A. Marc Leventhal

short walk to Wathen's News Agency where you should pick up the latest copy of *Campaign*, the Gay newspaper of Australia, chock full of news, articles, and ads to help you during your stay in the country. Wathen's have a difficult time obtaining American Gay magazines and newspapers, so if you can bring a supply with you, you might be able to sell them to the owner. They are located on 124 Little Bourke Street in the heart of a little Chinatown.

The hotels that I inspected in Melbourne impressed me a great deal. There is a type for everybody, but I think everyone would be impressed with the Hotel Windsor, a charming luxury hotel, a traditional hotel done in impeccable taste. The dining room with its magnificent ceiling domes will excite your admiration. The Melbourne Hilton is also an impressive hotel. The Noahs chain has a fine hotel here and can be recommended for the weary traveler, as would any of their hotels throughout

and you are invited to play the century old Lipp grand piano in the ballroom. The front sitting room, with its chintz covered easy chairs, looks very inviting, and the nursery has a fabulous doll collection.

The Gay scene is geared for the weekend. Bernhardt's at 50-52 Little Latrobe Street is an after hours disco. There is Chaps Saloon in the Chevron Hotel, 519 St. Kilda Road. BJ's Place, 261 Smith Street, for dining. Smarties is a camp (Australian for Gay) disco at the Carron Tavern, Spencer and Batman Streets. Baths include the centrally located Continental Baths at 259 Collins Street, and Spa-Guy, 553 Victoria Street. There is a cruise bar in the cellar of the hotel opposite the Continental Baths.

There is good live theatre in Melbourne: Australian productions of hit London and Broadway shows are always on the boards. While I was there ANNIE was just about to open, and a review of Noel Coward & Ivor Novello music with June Bronhill (a favorite performer of mine ever since seeing her in ROBERT & ELIZABETH in London) was at The Comedy Theatre. Dressy audience. A

Australia is divided into two territories (Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory). The latter is divided into six states, and each state is responsible for its own laws governing sexual behavior. Homosexual acts between males are illegal in all parts of Australia except South Australia (Adelaide is main city) and the Australian Capital Territory (Canberra). The police this year have been cracking down on Gay Rights demonstrations in major cities, and continue to hassle outdoor cruising and keep an eye on facilities (conveniences, Men's Rooms). They tend to ignore

Australian police have been getting tough, but the Gay life continues to thrive.

bars, baths, clubs, and private parties. This anti-Gay attitude should not deter you from visiting the country. Just think of all the Gays here in San Francisco that still drink Florida orange juice.

Melbourne is a charming Victorian city. I would say it is the Edinburgh of Australia while Sydney is the London. Gay life here is noticeable but repressed, but it has an Australian "life" that should not be missed. Do visit here before you spend any time in Sydney. You'll appreciate it more.

Though a thriving, bustling city, the capital of the state of Victoria is delightful in its shops and parks. The profile of the city is 19th century, complemented by the exclusive little shops at the Paris end of Collins Street. The Royal Botanic Gardens by the Yarra River, and all the other gardens and parks that dot the city, add the touch of green every civilized city needs.

After all those 60 million sheep in New Zealand, it was a pleasure to see so many good looking men on the streets of Melbourne. If you are interested in the outdoors, it isn't too difficult to pick up a new friend in the gardens beyond the Parliament Building.

I stayed at the Southern Cross Hotel which is listed in the book "The 100 Great Hotels of the World." I didn't think it rated that honor, but it certainly is a good one, and centrally located. It is just a



Pohutu Geyser, Rotorua, New Zealand. "The thermal baths should not be missed."

Australia and New Zealand.

Sightseeing: Melbourne is one of those cities where you can be delighted just by strolling around. But don't forget to visit Drummond Street to see some of the best of Victorian terrace houses with their beautiful iron lacework. Tour Como House, a stately colonial mansion overlooking the Yarra River only a few minutes from the heart of the city. From the Melbourne 1850's, this family homestead still feels lived in,

resident company had a season of imaginative plays that looked better than A.C.T.

A few general notes to help you enjoy your trip to Australia: read *The Thorn Birds* by Coleen McCullough; and/or her first novel, *Tim*, a tender love story set in contemporary Sydney. Shop well for opals. Buy New Zealand or Australian sheep skins (grade 4 preferred) — they're a good buy and make great gifts.

SOUTH-BAY CHRONICLE

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NEXT DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 7

Children's Hospital & the Gay Community

By Gene Earl

Children's Hospital in Oakland has recently been adopted by the Lake Lounge. Owner Fred Corella, manager John Hallesmark and public relations director Tony Valentine have seen to it that the hospital has received cash donations to help them continue with their work.

The next fundraiser for Children's Hospital will be the Queen of Hearts Ball at the Lake Merritt Hotel on Saturday, Feb. 10. Festivities include a sumptuous buffet dinner, dancing, and selection of the King & Queen of Hearts. Music will be provided by the Ernie Mansfield Band, one of the area's favorites, and entertainment will be hosted by Valentine & Co. Local celebrities will be on hand for the judging. Advance tickets are \$10 (\$12 at the door).



East Bay Gays prepare for Children's Hospital benefit Ball, February 10.

Since its founding in 1912, Children's Hospital has never turned away any child due to

race, creed or ability to pay. This past year alone close to 7,000 children have been

served as in-patients and over 128,000 as out-patients.

3 and 4. It starts at 10:00 pm on the 3rd with a champagne and cake party and again on the 4th at 1:00 pm by invitation only but will open to the general public at 2:00 pm, with a buffet luncheon and the ribbon cutting ceremony for the hot new Jacuzzi.

The 2nd Annual Closet Ball will be held on February 10, with doors opening at 7:00 pm at the MCC Church, 160 N. 3rd St. This promises to be even more fun than last year's and features the coming out of retirement of Goldie Montana. I hope that you will all get out and support this worthwhile event.

Aunt Helen's Galley will host their 2nd Anniversary party on February 14 with a buffet and special entertainment — and the Savoy will hold, on the same date, a Valentine's Party with the theme of "Music For Lovers" and no cover charge.

If you are interested in getting in on the action for the Gay Softball League, go to a meeting to be held February 11 at 1723 Harte Dr., or call 264-1880 and ask for Dan. Meeting time is 5:00 pm. There is a need for team sponsorship from area businesses.

Spring Bowling League is

Points South, East, & North

by Gene

OAKLAND

Big doings in Oakland on Saturday, Feb. 10. The Lake Lounge, along with Tony Valentine and the Lake Merritt Hotel, will host the King & Queen of Hearts Ball. Tickets are \$10 advance and \$12 at the door. All proceeds go to Children's Hospital, Oakland, a most worthwhile cause.

This past weekend, the Grand Re-Opening of the Zephyr Lounge looked like the ribbon cutting ceremony for Grand Central Station. I never saw so many people show up for a Grand Opening of ANY Gay establishment.

HAYWARD

Be sure to mark Sunday, Feb. 11, for Hayward's Cotillion, a combination of Valentine's celebration and Swearing In of Hayward's Gay Sheriff,

Tony. Doors open at 7:00 pm, with tickets \$5 advance and \$6 at the door. Tickets are available at all bars in Hayward, the Lake Lounge in Oakland, and Aunt Helen's Galley in San Jose. For more information, call 537-1670 or 538-2314.

The Turf Club will have a Mr. & Mrs. Ticky Tacky Contest on February 14 with a \$25 prize to the two winners of the titles. Starting at 8:30 pm, this looks like it should be a lot of fun.

This past weekend, the T.T. Express held a disco dance contest, with a \$1 entry fee at the door. Although virtually no advance publicity was put out on the event, \$120 was taken at the door — to be given to the San Jose Home for Gay Elderly. Good work, Hayward!

SAN JOSE

The Watergarden's 2nd Anniversary is coming up Feb.

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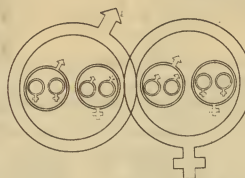
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underway at Fiesta Lanes on Wednesday nights at 9:00 pm. Those interested should show up at the Fiesta Lanes on W. San Carlos and see John Esqueda or Chris Gow any Wednesday.

If you are interested in pool, see Andy or Wayne Roberts at the 641 Club. They are putting together a pool team to compete in games against San Francisco clubs and bars from all over the Bay Area.

MODESTO

The Brave Bull's 3rd Anniversary Party will be held on Sunday, Feb. 18, starting at 1:00 pm, with special buttons, new T-shirts, guest bartenders, a buffet, and complimentary champagne at midnight. Last year, folks from all over California showed up at this event, and it will be bigger and better this year.

The Mustang Club, along

with the help of Dorothy's Fine Spaghetti, held a benefit for the court this Sunday past with a showing of old movies and, of course, a few dishes of spaghetti. The function netted \$60 for the court.

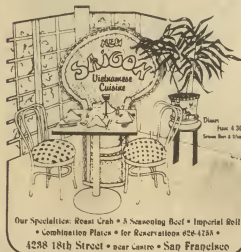
Arrest in MCC Santa Ana Fire

SANTA ANA

An alleged arsonist has been arrested here for setting a fire on January 24 that destroyed the local Metropolitan Community Church. The arrested person, B.A.R. has learned, is a member of MCC with apparent differences with MCC.

The large, old wooden structure was only four blocks from the Orange County civic center and a short distance from Fullerton, home of State Senator John Briggs. The building housed the first synagogue in the county at one time and was 75 years old. Two adjoining apartment houses, also owned by the church, were not damaged.

Rev. Jim Dykes, pastor of MCC-San Francisco, told his congregation in a Sunday service that, ironically, this time the homophobia came from within the church itself.



FULL STORY: 'Great America' Gay Night Stirs Controversy

By George Mendenhall

SAN JOSE

Great America, the multi-million dollar amusement park in Santa Clara County, will open its facilities for a "Gay Night" on Friday, May 4 — an event sponsored by Fun Productions of Los Angeles.

Fun Productions has produced similar "Nights" at Southern California's Disneyland and Magic Mountain amusement parks in 1978. The firm is a private corporation that has allotted some of its profits for Gay causes. How much it has allotted is part of the controversy.

Charles Morris, publisher of *The Sentinel*, contends that his publication will "boycott" the event because Marriott Corporation, which owns the park, does not have a non-discriminatory policy in regard to hiring homosexuals.

Carol Taylor, the co-owner of Fun, recently visited San Jose and told the area's Lambda Association that Fun would allot up to \$8,000 in matching funds for the group's Gay Community Center Building Fund. The fund currently has only \$1,300 in its bank account.

Steve Century, chair of Lambda, told B.A.R. that he is delighted with the arrangement with Fun. He said that it took Lambda three years to raise just \$1,300 and that doubling even that amount will be welcome.

When confronted with the charges that Great America might discriminate in employment, Century replied, "Well, this is a private party produced by a private corporation. It's like you or I hiring a hall and having a party. You can come if you like. If I was worried about the park's discriminatory hiring policies, I would not attend. I am known as a Gay activist and I hear plenty of scuttlebutt. I have never heard of Great America ever discriminating against anyone because of a person's sexual preference."

Lambda, which has 140 Santa Clara County members, is the best known Gay group in the area. It is not wealthy. It publishes its own *Lambda News* which helps pay the group's expenses. Century states that he hopes that the Building Fund might eventually help the group to rent or purchase a permanent facility.

B.A.R. also talked with Pat Compano, who is the creative designer and creator of Great America's costumes for its many stage shows at its Santa Clara and Chicago parks. Compano is well known in the Gay community as a consistent award-winner for his designs in local Gay stage productions. He was a judge at the 1978 Beaux Arts Ball.

Compano said, "They have not discriminated against hiring Gay people in my area — entertainment. Nothing is ever said about it. There is some friendly kidding but nothing offensive."

"I do not know of anyone who has been refused employment or fired because they were Gay and they couldn't be too prejudiced if they are opening up the park for a Gay Night with thousands of homosexuals there and with the publicity that might result from that event."

Landmark Decision

Lesbian Gains Custody, Michigan High Court Rules

ANN ARBOR

"Two and a half years of hell is truly over," Margaret Miller sighed in relief when the Michigan Supreme Court ruled on January 17 that she was entitled to custody of her 12-year-old daughter, Jillian. Miller had lost custody in divorce case settlement in 1977. The judge who ruled against Miller admitted that the woman's Lesbianism was the major consideration in giving the father custody.

Young Jillian lived with her mother for three years following a 1973 divorce, but the husband moved in 1976 to obtain custody.

This is the first State Supreme Court decision which establishes that a woman's sexual orientation should not be a major determining factor in custody cases. The decision was unanimous.

Miller said that the two years of court hearings had taken their toll. She emphasized that "it has been painful but now it's over. Let us all go back to living lives, loving our children and getting along in our own spaces."

Don Mager, an official of the Michigan Organization for Human Rights and a Gay parent himself, announced that MOHR was proud of its involvement in the case from the beginning. He said that Gay people should be elated with the decision because "the issues were absolutely clear. Lesbianism was what was on trial and the court ruled that that is not sufficient reason for removal of a child from its mother's custody. We are all winners with this one."



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ENTERTAINMENT

Stage: George Bernard Shaw's HEARTBREAK HOUSE

"It's no wonder lesser men have sometimes tired of his relentless brilliance" — particularly those in search of the primal scream.



Elizabeth Huddle lends her extensive talent to A.C.T.'s HEARTBREAK HOUSE. Huddle plays Lady Ariadne Utterword who insists propriety will hold the world together.

Americans harbor a legendary distaste and suspicion of anyone who talks too much. Likewise, they have built into the national myth the superiority of the strong, silent type. The demise of a John Wayne is watched with the intensity of a national tragedy; the undoing of a Truman Capote is dismissed with the chortle of an appropriate come-uppance.

To a newer generation of Americans — those rocked, popped 'n' pillared through the monosyllabic drug era, and their heirs, those finished off in the din of singles, Gay and disco bars — to all those gagged 'n' gutted, the art of conversation might be as foreign and as archaic as the traveling relics of King Tut.

Englishmen talk too much. What's worse, Shakespeare talks too much, and no one talks more than the characters of George Bernard Shaw. Shakespeare's characters eventually wind down or get knocked off. Shaw's mock heroes and heroines go right on talking. More annoying, they sometimes even fail to

many of whom were probably expecting an idle comedy à la Neil Simon because somewhere they half-learned that George Bernard Shaw was funny.

HEARTBREAK HOUSE is a titanic theatrical experience and struggle, and one should not try it on for size if one is not prepared to fight and die for his stupidities and clichés. Shaw leaves no pebble unturned. He does not merely hold them up to the light; he pulverizes them — first from the right, then from the left, and then back and forth right through the middle. Nobody wins and nobody knows they have lost and there is no place to hide. The conclusion, perhaps best put in the words of Jean Paul Sartre, "man is a useless passion" and in the thoughts of Shaw man ought to sink with the rotten ship of state. And, good riddance!

The play, begun in 1913, completed in 1916, and first produced in 1920, is Shaw's retaliation for the folly of World War I. For Shaw, heretofore a man of expansive idealism, the war was an orgy of blood, pugnacity, and mass lunacy. In consequence, the black mood of the play reveals that he had come as close as he would ever come to discouragement and despair. Shaw assigned the blame to the inhabitants of Heartbreak House (a palace of inertia) to the upper classes who had been squandering their rightful inheritance in the pursuit of pleasure and amorous dalliance.

He wrote in the play's preface:

Heartbreak House was far too lazy and shallow to extricate itself

In educated opinion, G. B. Shaw continues to stand as the greatest all-round English dramatist since Shakespeare.

tion and relief. And yet over the evening neither the play nor the players diminished one millimeter. On the contrary, the players all but overreached themselves — if precision can be honed to a diamond-hard needle and harmonies orchestrated til they be dizzy, the A.C.T. company accomplished that and more. They exhausted — if not blew away — the audience. An audience,

from this palace of evil enchantment. It rhapsodized about LOVE; but it believed in cruelty. It was afraid of cruel people; and it saw that cruelty was at least effective . . . Heartbreak House, in short, did not know how to live, at which point all that was left to it was the boast that at least it knew how to die. A melancholy accomplishment which the outbreak of war presently gave it unlimited opportunities of displaying. (Enter Hemingway

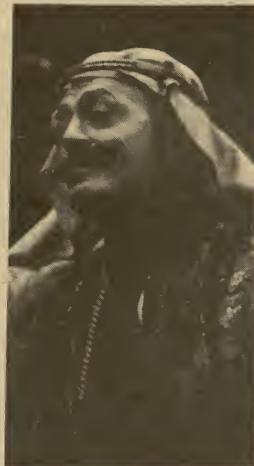
who made it a virtue.)

In the thinness of the Shavian air, the humor punishes. One sensed the A.C.T. cast were running with Shaw and Heartbreak House as if it were the ultimate play-acting of their careers. They were in complete control of the vehicle — no, that is not enough; they were beyond control. There was nary a hitch in the execution for the support was all there: in the sets, the lighting, the costumes, the stage craft. A.C.T. gave to Shaw their heavyweights and the heavyweights gave Shaw more than he could expect.

It's all there at the Geary Theater — the missing link is us.

After a generation of sensitivity training, Esalen, Roling, primal screams, Zen, est, and the last hurrah (the Advocate experience) wherein our confusion, anger, and ineptness have been turned to mush, I would recommend a heavy dose of Shaw. If for nothing else than to kindle or rekindle

the brain. If for nothing else than to be introduced to or to recall that MIND remains valid



Peter Donat, A.C.T. star player, as Hector Hushabye.

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in a mindless world. That struggle is superior to 'submission even if the whole ship deserves to go down in a blaze of banality. That those who cling to the primacy of the will and wit are not some sort of UFO's.

When the King Tut exhibit hits San Francisco, thousands upon thousands will turn out to peep. And return safely home thinking culture has something to do with waiting in long lines.

A.C.T.'s HEARTBREAK HOUSE is culture in crisis. Their current production exceeds expectation. The only dark note is: are San Francisco audiences up to it.

Paul-Francis Hartmann

Stage: Enuf is Enuf!

Ntozake Shange's stunning choreopoem FOR COLORED GIRLS WHO HAVE CONSIDERED SUICIDE WHEN THE RAINBOW IS ENUF is back in town for a limited engagement at the Marines Memorial Theatre. Oz Scott's deft staging makes this one-act tone poem of black women's emotions a warm, sly, and

often piercing evening of theatre.

This time around the ensemble of six women is dominated by Rise Collins as the Lady in Red. An Amazon-like tigress of massive strength, with loins of steel and the pelvis of a camel. Ms. Collins takes to center stage and the audience snickers with expectant appreciation that the work of authority is about to be delivered on just how it is. When she delivers Shange's poems, it is not a recital of verse. It is a hurt, angry black woman trapped by black men who have fucked her over once too often. Listen to her cries in "No Assistance" or in the pathetic "A Nite With Beau Willie Brown." Her screams of anguish take on the bestial sound of a wounded lioness. Backing her up is Joyce Hanley as the Lady in Purple, whose delivery of "Sechita" and "Sorry" are beautifully paced. She has a sense of musicodramatic timing that is marvelous. Her voice caresses Shange's words and emotions. The rest of the cast is superb, especially in the delivery of Shange's poems "One," "I Used To Live In the World. But Then I Moved to Harlem," and Veronica Terrell's beautiful rendition of "Somebody Almost Run Off

Wit Alla My Stuff."

But it is Ms. Collins' performance which controls the evening. As you watch her in action, you know she could bring the "baddest motherfucker in the bunch" to his knees with little effort. Don't miss it!

George Heymont

Eureka Presents THE ABDICATION

On Saturday, Feb. 9, The Eureka Theatre (16th & Market) will present "The Abdication" by Ruth Wolff, a play about one of history's most beguiling women, Queen Christina of Sweden, who it is said possessed the soul of a twentieth century feminist in the body of a seventeenth century royal pawn. "The Abdication" will preview February 2, 3 and 8 and will be performed thereafter on Thursdays through Sundays at 8:00 pm until March 10.

In her own day, Christina was variously reputed to be a hermaphrodite, a Don Juan in drag, and an insatiable nymphomaniac. Like Cleopatra before her, her reputation has continued to dazzle until it nearly eclipsed the real woman, who more nearly resembled Bella Abzug than Liv Ullman, who portrayed her in the film version. And yet Christina in the flesh was a creature of real passion, even though she met only one man in the course of her long life capable of requiting her passion, Cardinal Azzolino. Ironically, their relationship apparently was never consummated, although Azzolino, also believed to be a bisexual, took the precaution of burning their correspondence after her death. "The Abdication" is a play you will long remember about a woman that history could not forget.

The cast of "The Abdication" includes Susan Kampe, Dan Cauthon, Susan Tairstein, Brett Hirschi, Brent Christensen, Rise Walter, James Brady and Lorri Holt. The director is Julie Hebert.

For reservations, call 863-7133.



Rise Collins takes top honors as COLORED GIRLS returns to town.

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Freedom Day Chairs Chosen

Sue Davis, a nurse, and Robert Smith, an aide to Supervisor Carol Ruth Silver, have been elected co-chairs of the June 24 Gay Freedom Day parade.

The public is urged to attend a workshop day to discuss all aspects of the parade and celebration on Sunday, Feb. 4, and on Sunday, Feb. 11, when the theme and parade route will be resolved. Meetings are held at the American Indian Center, 229 Valencia, at 5:00 pm.

World Premiere of "Centralia 1919"

The Berkeley Stage Co. premieres CENTRALIA 1919, a new musical that blends the high-pitched tension of political documentary with vaudeville undercurrents of comedy, music, song and dance. Written by Barry Pritchard, with music by Robert MacDougall and directed by Michael Addison, CENTRALIA 1919 premieres February 1 to March 4, Thursdays through Sundays at 8:00 pm.

Set in the lumber country of the Northwest, CENTRALIA 1919 focuses on the events leading up to the violent clash between Centralia's chapter of the "Wobblies" (the Industrial Workers of the World) and

members of the American Legion at the culmination of Centralia's Armistice Day Parade of 1919. At the center of the play's action stands Elmer Smith, a transplanted Midwestern lawyer caught between his own sympathies for the Wobblies and societal pressures against organized labor. Through Elmer's tragic story, the play tells the classic American tale of a ruling class using fear and twisted patriotism to perpetuate their dominance over a labor force struggling to raise themselves from oppression through solidarity. Against this tapestry of political documentary, playwright Pritchard has artfully woven a background of comedy, music, song and dance largely adapted from the blithely naive vaudeville routines of the period.

Though this is the first of Pritchard's work to be pre-

sented in the Bay Area, his plays have previously been produced in New York, London, Los Angeles, and Seattle. Composer Robert MacDougall has worked extensively in the Northwest both acting and writing music for such theater companies as the Ashland Shakespeare Festival and Seattle Repertory. Director Michael Addison is best known locally for his work with Berkeley Repertory Theater, and has also directed for the past two years with the Ashland Shakespeare Festival.

For information or reservations, call 548-4728.

Rub-A-Dub-Dub What's New At The Tubs?

February 4 at 6:30pm marks the return of Jack Morin and Mural Edelman to the Fair-oaks Hotel for "A DIFFERENT NIGHT AT THE BATHS." Using exercises in touching, trusting, and group dynamics, they offer a chance to break through the alienating behavior patterns which all too often dominate the Gay experience. It is an evening which seduces one with its warmth, honesty, and openness. The Fair-oaks (799 Oak Street — near Steiner) is a warm, friendly place. It offers an atmosphere of coziness which is rare in the bathhouse experience. Bring your libido, a smile, and leave your defense mechanisms at home. It's a risk worth taking!

Theatre Rhinoceros Presents "The West Street Gang"

Theatre Rhinoceros (local Gay theater group) presents the West Coast premiere of Doric Wilson's THE WEST STREET GANG, a comedy about the clientele of a New York City Gay bar. These men are brought together by the issue of how to protect themselves from harassment on the streets. THE WEST STREET GANG is not a heavy play; it's fast, funny, and upbeat. Leave the suffering at home. As Director Allan Estes puts it, "THE WEST STREET GANG is designed to make the audience feel good."

THE WEST STREET GANG will open on February 16 at 8:00pm, at the Black & Blue (8th & Howard). The play will run Fridays and Saturdays from February 16 and 17 thru March 9 and 10.

For reservations and information call 621-3911.

Some men have got it . . . And some men would like to get it. So move it . . . with a B.A.R. classified ad.

Up, Coming, and Choice

By Adam Block

JAKI BAYARD: Rashaan Roland Kirk called this keyboard master "the Emperor of creative jazz playing." Who are we to argue. (Keystone Korner — Feb. 1-4 — 8:00 & 11:00 — \$5)

RODNEY CROWELL: This rusty-voiced country rocker has folks recalling the great Gram Parsons. With a powerful debut lp out he'll play here with Emmylou Harris' Hot Band featuring guitarist Albert Lee. (Boarding House — Feb. 2 — 8:00 & 11:00 — \$5)

THE TUBES: Their all new lp, produced by Todd Rundgren, is in the can, and these local zanies are taking a rare turn through the clubs. The unlikely booking may merit the trip. (Keystone Palo Alto — Feb. 2 & 3 — 8:00 & 11:00 — \$7.50)

GREG KIHN & THE RUBINOOS: Hard folk-rocker Kihn, and the teen-pop Rubes have long been slated as Berkeley Records' mainstream threats. Both bands excel in concert, so count this a mighty bill. (Old Waldorf — Feb. 2 & 3 — 8:00 & 11:00 — \$5.50 adv/\$6.50 show)

BLUE CHEER: The original psychedelic heavy metal outfit produced a classic version of "Summertime Blues" back in '69; what the fuck they're up to now, this concert may tell. (Keystone Berkeley — Feb. 3 — 8:30 & 11:00 — \$4)

BILL EVANS TRIO: A seminal cool jazz pianist, the only white aside from John McLaughlin ever to work with Miles Davis, Evans' influence has stretched to Jarrett, Corea, and Hancock. If you discovered Stephen Grappelli at this hall, do yourself another favor. (Great American Music Hall — Feb. 3 & 4 — 8:30 & 11:00 — \$7 Sat., \$6 Sun.)

MABUHAY LEGAL DEFENSE BENEFIT: The OFFS and DEAD KENNEDYS lead a stellar punk line-up to free the Mab of police and thug harassment. (Mabuhay Gardens — Feb. 3 — 11:00 — \$4)

VIKTEMS, SITUATIONS, NO MERCY: The Viks are an all female lineup, tough and quick. The Sits average age is 16, so call it boyish charm. The powerhouse Lesbian duo No Mercy stole the show at the No on Six Benefit, when they were calling themselves On The Rag. (Mabuhay Gardens — Feb. 6 — 11:00 — \$3)

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A FOSTER and KLEISER PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE

AN OPEN LETTER TO OUR CASTRO/UPPER MARKET STREET NEIGHBORS

Valentine's Day, February 14 at 8:00 PM a benefit auction is scheduled at Twin Peaks Tavern (Market at 17th). The auction will be for Mr. and Mrs. Smith, the eighty-year old couple who have been burned out of their Castro Street home four separate times over the last two years. The auction is a neighborhood effort — people coming to the aid of people.

Bob Ross will be the chief auctioneer, plus many celebrity and surprise guests. Auctionable items and donations will be gratefully accepted at the Twin Peaks Tavern.

We would like to make this evening (St. Valentine's) a genuine gesture of people caring about people.

Twin Peaks Tavern
& Other Concerned Neighbors

IF IT BURNS YOU BE THERE!

CLASH, BO DIDDLEY, PEARL HARBOR: What a lineup! Pearl, formerly of Leila, who has been earning raves with her new act, takes it to the big time, with the original 'hey, Bo Diddle,' who has made a career out of one riff. The Clash have been called the greatest rock band growing by writers as diverse as Greil Marcus, Robert Christgau, and Howie Klein. Working class rage, well wrought lyrics, and a firm melodic streak are going to be butt up against a motherlode of expectations. Will their attack hit home in the USA or is this just a tourist attraction? Find out in their first local appearance. (Berkeley Community Theatre - Feb. 7 - 8:00 - \$4.50, \$5.50, \$6.50)

DAN HICKS, MARK NAFTALIN: The sensibility of R. Crumb meets swingtime and da blooze as our most original eccentric hies his laconic self out of the woodwork. Despite his reputation for unreliability, last year's set was enthralling and hilarious. Don't expect the Hot Licks, but don't expect to be bored. (Boarding House - Feb. 8 - 9:00 & 10:00 - \$6)

PETER TOSH: Supper club reggae, but this time Jagger will sing with him for sure, yeah and Keith'll play and... (Old Waldorf - Feb. 8 & 9 - 8:00 & 11:00 - \$6.50 adv, \$7.50 show)

ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL: These irrepressible post-Bob Wills wonders rumble their country with rockabilly and swing. Why don't they ever play the city? (Keystone Palo Alto - Feb. 9 - 8:00 & 11:00 - \$5)

ELLA FITZGERALD, COUNT BASIE, OSCAR PETERSON, JOE PASS, PAUL SMITH TRIO: Pablo Records presents a veritable Mt. Rushmore of jazz. Herb and Wasso'll have all the details. (Masonic Auditorium - Feb. 9 - 7:00 & 10:30 - \$8.50 to \$15)

ELVIS COSTELLO, THE RUBINOOS: On the heels of his stunning third lp, ARMED FORCES, Elvis is taking another swing through America. He is simply the most riveting, rewarding talent I've seen in the last three years. Carl Perkins, unfortunately, cancelled, but the Rubinoos look to be fun. If you see one rock concert - make it this one. (Berkeley Community Theatre - Feb. 9 & 10 - 8:00 - \$5.50, \$6.50, \$7.50)

VASSAR CLEMENTS & BACK IN THE SADDLE: Clements is a legendary fiddler. When the hoe comes down, this'll be the place to be. (Great American Music Hall - Feb. 9 & 10 - 8:30 & 11:30 - \$6)

GIL SCOTT HERON & BRIAN JACKSON: Heron scored deserved praise for his last lp, SECRETS, and the single, "Angel Dust." The man has the licks and style to make music of his politics, not polemics. He may still do "The Bottle," and "Johannesburg," and I'd expect a moving show. (UCB Zellerbach Aud. - Feb. 10 - 8:00 - \$6.50, \$7.50)

WILLIE NELSON, JERRY JEFF WALKER: The grandpappy pirate and chief outlaw Willie N. needs no introduction. This could be a great place to catch his act if you can manage the trek. Jerry Jeff has done more than write "Mr. Bojangles," but I can't recall it right now. (Maples Pavilion, Stanford - FEB. 10 - 7:30 - \$7 and \$8)

ROY CAMPI & HIS ROCKABILLY RHYTHM DEVS, PEARL HARBOR, ANGRY SAMOANS: Campi is a cult hero in the U.K. and has built a punkabilly following on Broadway. Pearl and her Explosions are a welcome addition, and the Angry Samoans feature Greg Turner, formerly of Richard Meltzer's VOM. (Mabuhay Gardens - Feb. 9 & 10 - 11:00 - \$4)

KPOO LIVE BROADCAST: Mary Monday, VIP's, SYMOTOMS, VIKTEMS, and ALEX The Cat. A grab-bag of some of the new wave's more interesting up and comers. (Mabuhay Gardens - Feb. 12 - 8:30 - \$3)

INTERVIEW: Ruth Hastings Plays The Geary THIS SUNDAY



"Ruth Hastings Plays the Geary" February 4 in a concert appearance of Broadway music. Hastings will draw from the music of Stephen Sondheim, Leonard Bernstein and Kurt Weill. Ruth Hastings is a longtime friend of the Gay community and has a large Gay following.

"I generally think of myself as an actress who sings." That's how Ruth Hastings described her performing style last Wednesday afternoon during a conversation about her career and her upcoming solo concert. That style will be put to the fullest test this Sunday, February 4, at 7:30 PM in RUTH HASTINGS PLAYS THE GEARY when Ms. Hastings will offer songs by Sondheim, Porter, Gershwin, Weill and other composers whose more sophisticated music and lyrics require both singer and actress to do them justice.

"I'd been storing up songs for a while and setting them aside in a certain stack," she said of the material she chose for the

concert. "The stack is called 'Songs I've Always Wanted to Learn.' They're songs I can relate to easily." The repertoire includes a twenty-minute medley entitled "Sondheim's Women" and a more contemporary New York medley celebrating her recent New York club debut. "I think the main theme is music from the theatre, from the Broadway stage."

Producer Charles Dillingham, former General Manager of A.C.T., chose Ruth Hastings for his first solo venture. It's a big step for the former nursery school teacher who started her professional singing career at Gordon's and Le Domino, and for the past year and a half starred in the successful JACQUES BREL production at Chez Jacques. Ms. Hastings sees Sunday's concert as a chance to thank "all the people who have followed me throughout the years." Without them, she said, "I'd still be teaching school and doing community theatre at night." She is both aware and appreciative of her Gay following.

Ruth will be accompanied at the Geary by her usual companions: Craig Jessup assisting with vocals and Barry Lloyd, her musical arranger, at the piano. There was much debate about augmenting the

accompaniment, but Ruth decided to keep the evening a family affair. The best thing that can happen is "that it be a very warm, sharing experience. That there can be real, true communication between me and the audience."

Ms. Hastings & Co. have been enjoying that communication in ever increasing circles. Besides their new cabaret act every Sunday night at Chez Jacques here in San Francisco, they recently completed their New York club debut at Jan Wallman's in Greenwich Village and have been invited back to New York to do some showcases at The Ballroom. In addition, the Manager of the Brussels Opera Co. has invited them to Belgium with their Jacques Brel production. RUTH HASTINGS PLAYS THE GEARY may be a bon voyage party as well as a thank you card to her friends and followers.

Tickets for this solo concert are at the Geary Theatre and all agencies. Telephone charges can be made at 673-6440. I, for one, am looking forward to hearing Ruth Hastings wrap her exciting and intelligent voice around some of the best songs of the musical theatre.

Mark Topkin


Dance Spectrum Presents Double Bill

Carlos Carvajal's dance-theatre masterpiece TOTENTANZ (Dance of Death) will be presented by Dance Spectrum at the Palace of Fine Arts Theatre, Wednesday, Jan. 31, at 8:30, with additional performances Friday and Saturday, Feb. 2 and 3, at 8:30 and Sunday, Feb. 4, at 3:00pm. On the same program in dramatic contrast to TOTENTANZ is Carvajal's lyrical ensemble work for 14 dancers, THE SECRET SILENCE.

Originally choreographed by Carvajal for San Francisco Ballet in 1967, TOTENTANZ has five subsequent productions between 1971 and 1978 by Dance Spectrum at Grace Cathedral. This year's production is restaged for fuller movement and better viewing on the spacious Palace Theatre stage.

The five scenes of TOTENTANZ personify Death, the Master of All, in settings from medieval and modern dances. Popes, children, Kings, Mothers, Lovers, Martyrs, Soldiers, and the masses, are portrayed in dramatic encounters with Death. The original score is an electronic composition created by San Francisco composer Warner Jepson.

THE SECRET SILENCE is a Ballet of Life. In its creation last year, Carvajal was inspired by a composition created, performed and taped by San Francisco Symphony violinist Daniel Kobialka and his wife Machiko. THE SECRET SILENCE is a serene exploration



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tion of the higher senses, developing polarities and balances, evolving through the men and women of Dance Spectrum's core ensemble.

Tickets are available by mail

Stage: 'Neon Woman' Overgassed

If you're behind Divine and into bedlam and scatology, nothing anyone says this side of paradise will keep you from an evening at the Alcazar Theatre.

The opening-night audience loved every overweight minute of Divine and his/her pals. Keeping in mind that with some of his first nighters' get-ups and high-wired antics, high voltage theater was not left solely to those on stage. Whether successive audiences can take the pressure or keep up the pace remains to be seen. At some point a fervid following has to give way to the more plastic theater-goer — if a play is to expand from the peculiar to the general. From any glory hole — NEON WOMAN is not mainstream. And perhaps it never need be...

The story asks: how will Flash Storm (Divine) — the last of the pink-hot strippers — keep her seedy Baltimore burlesque house from being closed. Her adversaries are the law, bible-thumping politicians, as well as her troupe of low-life lovelies (the ladies of the chorus) and anybody else who gets in her way. For some reason the year is 1961. The

or phone through Dance Spectrum, 3221 22nd Street, SF 94110, or at all major agencies. Reservations/Information/Charges: 824-5044.

plot (you've seen it all before somewhere in the movies) or who's killing the chorines — reveals all the pleasantries, pain, and piggly-wiggly of backstage life.

Unfortunately, everyone backstage at the Club Neon Woman shouts at the top of their lungs and gets bashed about like puppets in a Punch 'n' Judy show — due either to the weakness of the vehicle or the unsureness of the director.

Most of the evening revolves around Divine's entrances and exits (and a constant flash of costume changes), his oftentimes hilarious grimaces, stunned expressions and banter. Divine, the sole performer who neither bellows nor thrashes about, has the lines that beat all the other lines. And some of his lines are wild.

Sweet William Edgar who plays the ambisexual stripper, Kitty La Rue, is delicious, delivering zingers and madness galore.

On the whole, something terribly amateurish hovered over, around, and beneath THE NEON WOMAN — like awkward home movies, or

brash fraternity house revues — too much forced energy, too much noise bridging the gaps between sound.

Divine all but gets away with murder in NEON WOMAN — and so he should. That's why fans will take to the witness stand and ignore judge and jury. It's bad, it's fun, and one could see it more than once.

P. Lorch

Discos Make You Feel At Home

Why do millions of Americans feel comfortable at Discos?

"People can go to these clubs where they don't recognize a soul, and through the power of music and the intensity of the atmosphere, feel instantly at home." That is the conclusion of Professor Richard Peterson of Vanderbilt University.

The sociologist says that young anti-war, back-to-nature hippies made rock music a success, while black and white Lesbians, Gay men, and transsexuals are today making Discos into a \$4 billion industry.

The researcher concludes, "A whole new generation has a chance to come out because, in the Disco world, being Gay is not only acceptable, it's even sort of chic."

B.A.R. Appoints New Editor

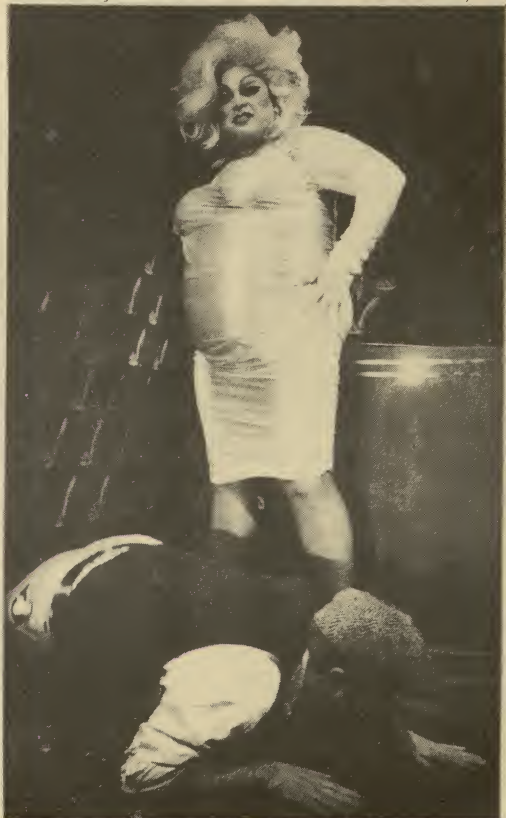
B.A.R. is proud to announce the appointment of George Heymont to the post of Fine Arts Editor. Mr. Heymont joined the staff of B.A.R. two years ago. Since then his droll and insightful opera column "TALES OF TESSI TURA" has delighted our readers and raised many an eyebrow within the operatic profession. His candid interviews with people in the world of opera have received acclaim on a national level.

Mr. Heymont's debut in show business came at an early age. His easygoing corpulence won him the lead role of Santa Claus in Mrs. Friedland's Rhythm Band for three years running at P.S. 222. He graduated from Brooklyn College in 1969 with a degree in theatre history. During his college years he was one of the more voracious culture vultures making the rounds of theatre, opera and ballet in New York. His training in enduring ten performances a week came at the hands of the legendary Lois Kirschenbaum.

In 1969 he moved to Providence, R.I., where he was an active speaker on behalf of the Gay Liberation movement. He was considered to be a leading voice on behalf of the Gay Rights struggle during the birth pangs of the movement in New England.

He settled in San Francisco in 1972 where his freelance transcribing has earned him a reputation as having the fastest fingers in town. On occasion he has made guest appearances as a cocktail pianist, delighting listeners with his broad range of Broadway and light classical music. He is currently working with Sutter Travel Service on plans for opera tours to the Seattle Ring Cycle and the Santa Fe Opera later this year.

In his new post as Fine Arts Editor, Mr. Heymont will be starting another column "BALLET UP TO THE BARRE, BOYS" and hopes to cover other events of interest. In his rare spare time, he is working on a book. He loves to travel, and plays a mean game of scrabble.



To Divine — as Flash Storm — echoes an attitude of Sadie Thompson, "All men are pigs. . ." Flash makes hers hit the dirt.

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...a flight above the crowd



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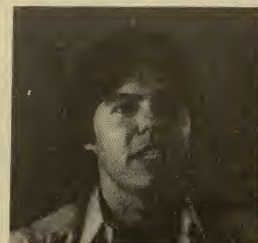
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Stage:

The Last Meeting of the Knights of the White Magnolia EXCEPTIONAL LOCAL THEATER

A TEXAS TRILOGY by Preston Jones received great critical acclaim at Kennedy Center in D.C. and on Broadway. Meridian Productions is mounting two-thirds of it; the first of which, entitled **THE LAST MEETING OF THE KNIGHTS OF THE WHITE MAGNOLIA**, premiered last weekend at the Marina Theatre at Fort Mason. I'm happy to report that it lives up to its reputation. The play itself is excellent both in its development and its dialogue, and the addition of a first rate cast and production totaled a near perfect evening in the theatre. I left entertained and enlightened.

The Knights of the White Magnolia was founded by one Maynard C. Stemko when he became disillusioned with the too liberal leanings of the KKK. Once a thriving organization of lodges, the KWM has wilted (by 1962) to seven members

who meet in the seedy Cattleman's Hotel in dusty Bradleyville, Texas. They come mostly to drink and play dominoes, but at this meeting they're going to initiate a new member — the first in five years.

The playwright gives us nine distinctively drawn characters. In the seven old members we see the desperation of trying to maintain a facade of self-respect and white male supremacy; in the young initiate we see the perpetuation of insularity in small, back-road towns; and in the Black janitor we see the wisdom of the folly of it all.

The ensemble cast is superb, and the fine, comedy-oriented direction by Julian Lopez-Morillas allows each man to establish his character clearly. I especially enjoyed Peter Emmons' depth and Jim Haynie for keeping the most



Tom Elkjer is on his knees as the initiate. Peter Emmons plays his guardian in **THE LAST MEETING OF THE KNIGHTS OF THE WHITE MAGNOLIA**, now at the Marina Theatre, Building 310, Fort Mason.

stereotypical character from becoming a cartoon.

the last meeting of the knights of the white magnolia will play Thursday through Sunday to February 4, and then continue on Thursdays and Saturdays through March 3 in repertory with **LU ANN HAMPTON LAVERTY OBERLANDER**, the second play of the trilogy. Tickets are \$3.50 (worth it at double that price). Reservations can be made at 431-6326. This is Bay Area theatre at its best.

Mark Topkin

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Ballet

SAN FRANCISCO OPENS '79 SEASON LIMPLY

"But Miz Scarlett, I don't know nothin' about birthin' ballets!!" That might have been the cry going through the Opera House after seeing Tomm Ruud's **RICHMOND VARIATIONS**. San Francisco Ballet opened its winter season with the premiere of this curious dance-saga. The work combines pantomime, narration, and dance as it unravels

the tragedy of a Civil War love story. Ruud's new work proved to be far less than the sum of its parts.

Some of the ingredients were magnificent. Ron Daum's score is a delight, evoking memories of Hershey Kay's **CAKEWALK**, and the music of Leonard Bernstein and Aaron Copland. The score drips with the noble sentiments of the South and is lushly orchestrated. The physical production was handsomely designed by Steven Rubin and most sympathetically lit by Sara Linnie Slocum.

But the ballet itself wasn't all there. Structural problems work against it. Two minutes into the work, the audience knows who's doomed and who isn't. If you've seen **GONE WITH THE WIND** or have ever had to study for an exam on the Civil War, the dramatic suspense is gone. The rest of the work, while pleasant scenically, is a dance letdown, concentrating for the most part on waltzes and mime. Paula Tracy offers a strong characterization of Jenny, the doomed General's wife, with Vane Vest as her noble husband. The final effect, however, is limp.

John McFall's **QUANTA** provides more fun as the dancers tease the audience while they explore spatial relationships. The first movement puts them through spastic contortions while they grope for warmth from each other. The second movement finds the dancers starting off in doll-like mechanical actions, at times working in unison and then diverging in their machinations. In the final movement, my favorite, the corps is reduced to ghostlike clones. They become mannequins slowly pushing their way through an invisible

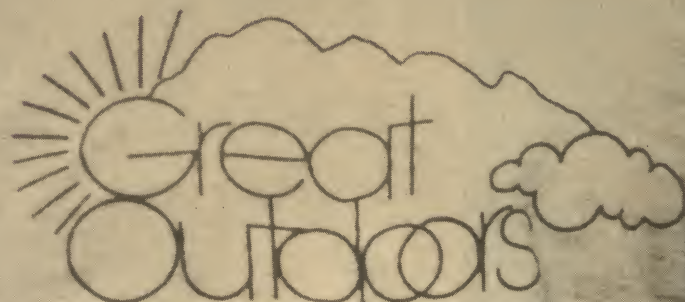


Paula Tracy shields herself from the rain in Tomm Ruud's new ballet **RICHMOND VARIATIONS**.

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field of marshmallow as they seek some meaning or direction. But they are not sure what they are seeking, and in the end, reach out to the audience in search of a clue. Shostakovich's String Quartet No. 6 provides an eerie background to the dancers' haunted, numb searchings.

Lew Christiansen's DIVER-
TISSMENT D'AUBER provided the only excitement of the evening. A piece of consummate ballet schmaltz, it was brilliantly danced by Diana Weber, Elizabeth Tienken and David McNaughton. McNaughton's technical prowess continues to grow and

astound audiences. His boyish sense of mischief and virtuoso turns combined to present the best dance impression of a Cuisinart to be seen on any stage!

Proposition 13's devastating effect on the arts in California was evident in a revival of Michael Smuin's ballet MOZART'S C MINOR MASS. When premiered last year, the work was backed up by the vocal strength of the entire Symphony Chorus. That costs money. Lots of it! Since the election, the chorus has been replaced by taped music, with several interesting side effects. This has eliminated a tremen-

dous visual distraction, allowing the audience to concentrate on the ballet instead of having one's eyes constantly teased to the back of the stage (where the chorus had originally been placed). The taped sound is, of course, a great disappointment from the original. But in transposing the music to tape, a distancing from the grandeur of Mozart's music has occurred. Originally the music overpowered the ballet. Some thought that the choreography was merely not up to the music. Smuin's work still provides an interesting ballet. The company dances it with clean lines. However, the plexiglass drops used to suggest a stained glass chapel effect lead the viewer to suspect that they were ripped off from the Jack Tar Hotel.

Overall, the opening program was one of surprising dullness. The dancers are in fine shape; much of the music was excellent. But the programming left much of the audience noticeably down; a rare effect in good ballet. A curiously depressing agenda for opening night!

George Heymont

Gay G.O.P. Grows, Retains Don James

Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights (CRIR) has returned Don James for a second term as president. The Gay G.O.P. club has grown to over 100 members in its two-year history.

James won by a narrow margin over Tim Moynihan who said "clubs should offer alternatives" in candidates. There were several contested races, moving former Assembly candidate Mike Henderson to characterize the club's "real scrap for offices" as a sign of progress and high membership interest.

CRIR re-elected Tom Isenberg, a founder of the group, as secretary and chose Kevin Wadworth as treasurer. Wadworth was the bookkeeper for the extensive Republicans Against Six effort during the Proposition 6 campaign. The elected first vice president is David Self, with Cathy Henderson assuming the position as second vice president.

CRIR now has a Board of Directors — one slot per ten club members. Elected to the Board were Don Bowden, Keith Clarey, David Finn, Rod Helton, Mike Henderson, Michael Mank, Brian Melnyk, Karin Miranda, and Elizabeth Taylor.

Self stressed that CRIR will work to change the city's political make up. He said, "There are too many Democrats in power in San Francisco and we've got to get them out."

When a Gay person moves, the first place he checks is a Gay FOR RENT list.

Tales of Tessa Tura

The Diva of the "D" Train

by George Heymont

"My friends always tease me because every apartment I've had overlooks the tracks. But I LIKE trains," Faye Robinson giggles. That giggle is a dead giveaway. The pitch floats so high above Faye that you think it's coming out of the heating vent in the ceiling rather than her mouth. Once a performance is over Faye is quick to get down and have a good time. "Hey, how ARE ya???" she asks, glowing with excitement. She had just finished singing Gilda in Verdi's RIGOLETTO. Her vocal pyrotechnics stopped the show cold during the aria "Caro Nome" as she bounced some unbelievable trills off the walls of the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion. One hardened opera fan near me let out a low whistle of amazement. His jaw dropped in disbelief as he whispered, "Holy shit!"

Faye has been singing with the City Opera for several years, turning in fine performances as Liu, Pamina, Lucrezia Borgia, and Violetta. Although she had to catch an early flight back to New York the next morning, she agreed to join some friends for a late night snack.

"Let's EAT!!!" she laughed. Faye never has to be coaxed into having a bite. She has kept her figure down despite a voracious appetite. As we get seated, she orders some hot apple pie a la mode. "I LOVE apple pie," she confesses. "I even baked one a few weeks ago. But I did something very stupid. I got home from singing on the road and like a fool, I went to the supermarket when

I was HUNGRY! So there I am, going down the aisles saying to myself, 'Hey, this looks good — that could be fun — this could be REAL nice.' I came home and found myself baking an apple pie while I was in jet lag. Ate the whole thing in two days!!"

Some women in the restaurant recognize her and come over for autographs. One congratulates Faye on her performance. "It looked like you were all having such a good time onstage tonight. Were you really that caught up in the performance?" she asks. This has caught Faye by surprise. "Is that what it looked like at the curtain calls?" Faye looks up in response. "The REAL reason is that we were all so glad that it was the last night we had to work this year! That's what we were jumping up and down about. It was the last night before our vacation!!"

Another autograph seeker turns to Faye's friend, Mack (who had been a super in Act I of RIGOLETTO). "You look like someone important. Were you the Duke in tonight's performance?" the woman asks. Mack blushes a deep scarlet and scribbles something hastily on the program. As soon as the woman leaves the table, Faye leans over and whispers, "Hey kid, what'd you write?" His face is still a deep crimson hue. "I didn't know what to put, so I crossed out your name and wrote Greta Garbo," he confesses. Everyone at the table erupts into howls of laughter, with Faye's high-pitched giggle leading the pack.



American Ballet Theatre premieres its DON QUIXOTE or KITRI'S WEDDING on February 19. The Ballet is conceived, directed, and choreographed by Mikhail Baryshnikov. In the photo, Enrique Martinez poses as Sancho Panza and Cynthia Gregory dances Kitri.

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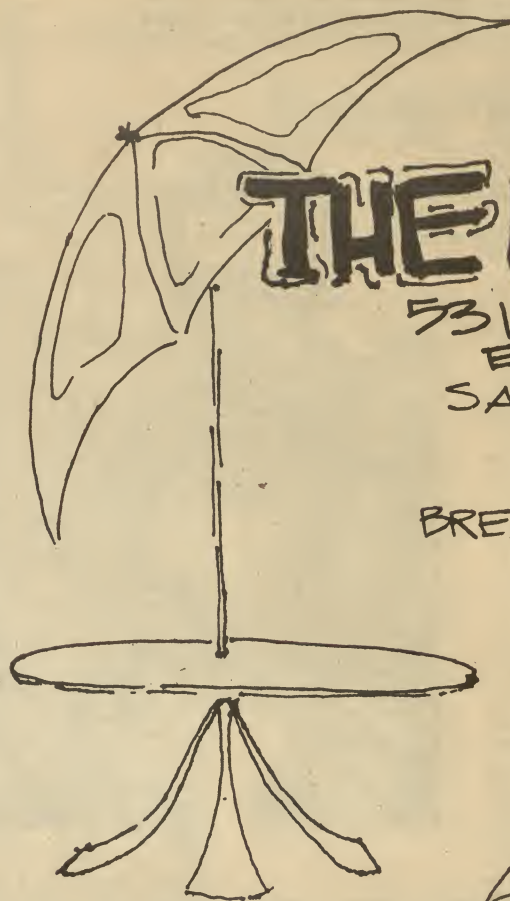
Ellis at Hyde

San Francisco

Electrolysis now offered by appointment.



A very talented American soprano, Faye Robinson is shown as Pamina in Mozart's opera THE MAGIC FLUTE.

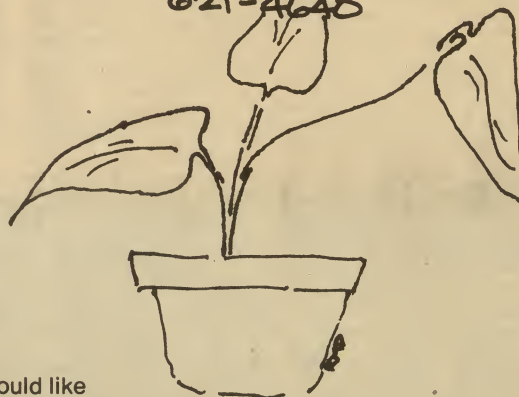


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The Patio Cafe, 531 Castro Street, would like to explain its position on the labor dispute currently taking place outside of the *Arcade*.

In December of last year (1978) Wolfgang and I offered to buy that part of the *Bakery Cafe* located on Castro Street. We did not buy the other restaurant on Haight Street, and also operated by the *Bakery Cafe*. It was our hope of reopening it under a new name and totally different concept in dining. The former owners and employees were engaged in a labor dispute which has since been dismissed by the NLRB. It is our understanding that the former owners were under no obligation to hold an election and thus declined to do so. While the sale was pending, the prior owners of the *Bakery* closed the restaurant, terminated all of the *Bakery* employees and paid them all wages due.

We completed purchase of the *Cafe*, re-modeled, and later reopened it as a full table service restaurant, offering breakfast, lunch and dinner. There is no counter service as we wished to cater to our customers with excellent table service. Our hiring was therefore directed towards obtaining competent table waiters and chefs experienced in cooking a variety of foods, not limited to what had been served at the *Bakery Cafe*. Although free to apply for work, the former employees refused to do so

unless we signed a union contract.

We feel that we are being picketed unfairly as they are not our employees and never were, and as a new business, we have the right to exercise our management prerogative in hiring those we feel are the best qualified for our type of restaurant.

The National Labor Relations Board has dismissed the petition against the *Bakery Cafe* but we continue to be picketed by their former employees. We ask that you help us in trying to obtain an end to their picketing by crossing their picket line and patronizing the merchants in the *Arcade*. Remember, the picketing is not directed at any of the other merchants in the *Arcade*.

Thank you for taking the time to find out that there are two sides to this story and please come in and introduce yourselves. Bring this letter with you and we'll host you to a complimentary non-alcoholic beverage with your meal. We hope to make our stay on Castro Street an enjoyable one for ourselves and the other merchants. Again, thank you.

John C. Ray

Later on she admits to some spontaneous moments in that night's performance. Two weeks prior she had been flown out to Los Angeles at the last minute to replace a singer who was taken ill. Luckily, she had sung many times in the City Opera's production of RIGOLETTO. "I flew all through the night and get here at 2:30 in the morning. I had to sing that night, so I just went straight to the theatre in a trance. I had just sung two Gilda's opposite Richard Fredericks in Fort Worth, so it was no problem singing opposite him here. He usually opens up the cuts, so I knew what to expect. But tonight I'm singing opposite Pablo (Elvira) and I don't know what he's gonna do. I hadn't had a chance to talk with the conductor, so I just got out on the stage and figured: What the hell — if he opens up the cuts I'll just keep on singing. If he sings the music, I'll just keep going until the curtain comes down on us both."

A friend mentions that Faye is now described in the program as "one of our old favorites from the City Opera." Does that mean she now has tenure? "That's just about ALL I have," Faye cackles. "Nothing's been signed for the Spring yet, although I'm supposed to do one LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR. I'm spending three months in Germany," she says and pauses. Her smile fades momentarily. "It's a little too long to be away from home. I'm not too comfortable about that."

Nor is she completely satisfied with her progress at the City Opera. Faye once went to the ladies room and bumped into a new soprano who had just joined the company. In the course of introductory chitchat, she asked what roles the newcomer would be singing that season. The soprano excitedly named a role which Faye had been coveting for a long time. "The bad thing," Faye states, "is that they've been bringing in foreign talent that is not as good as the American singers and pushing THEM instead of US. When someone is a genuine talent, I don't care where they come from; that makes no difference. When you see Ashley Putnam's Violetta tomorrow, that's a REAL God-given talent. It doesn't hurt people like Ashley or Leona Mitchell that they have a lot of money backing them up, either. But when management brings in some fifth rate..." she sighs, and then straightens up in defiance. "No — some eighth-rate European singers, and gives them the roles instead of us, that's just not fair at all."

Last season the City Opera revived its production of LE COQ D'OR with Faye as the sexy Queen of Shemakha. "Let me tell you, that's 45 minutes of unrewarding music," she continues. "I wanted out so bad. But when Julius (Rudel) saw me at the costume fitting, he kept shaking his head and saying, 'You look SO GOOD in that costume! You just look SO GOOD!' He couldn't get over it. Then one day I'm talking to

this new soprano who's singing the Queen of the Night in THE MAGIC FLUTE, and she starts saying how much she'd love to sing the Queen of Shemakha in COQ D'OR. I told her: 'Don't move, honey. I'll be right back.' So I go running down the hallway and find Rudel and I tell him, 'Hey listen, Julius, I know this lady who's just DYING to sing the Queen of Shemakha. If I can get her for you, can I get out of it?' He kept shaking his head and saying, 'But you look SO GOOD in that costume.' " Faye shrugs her shoulders in resignation.

Drinks arrive and the conversation turns to a robbery that occurred earlier that week in the hotel where the City Opera was lodged. Faye excitedly describes what happened. "One of the sopranos walked in on a hotel thief. Her boyfriend was asleep and had told her not to awaken him under any circumstances. So when he finally came to and realized what was going on, he jumps out of bed with only his T-shirt on and chases the burglar down the hallway. He nabs the thief and gets him in a half-nelson near the elevators. Now you'd think a soprano would have the brains to scream, huh? No. She's FRISKING the thief! Do you believe it? Here this guy could be armed with a knife or gun, and her boyfriend is standing there with no clothes on, and she's FRISKING the burglar and telling everybody that she saw how to do it on TV!! Finally she wrapped her sweater around her boyfriend's waist and they marched the guy

down to the front desk. All the time he was pleading with them to let him go. Is that too much? Some guy is dumb enough to try robbing the City Opera people and think he's gonna get rich!" she laughs.

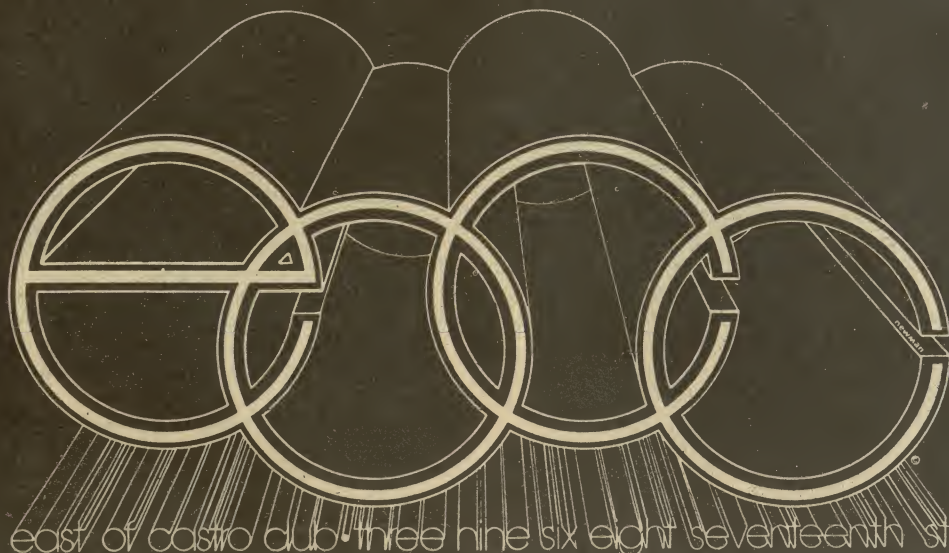
George Heymont

To be continued next issue.



Elvis Costello, THE rock show not to miss in February.

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50 New Year's Resolutions for Gay San Franciscans

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The following arrived unexpectedly in our mailbox. It was unsigned, but we found it one of the most refreshing items to cross our path in months.)

1. Attend at least one Royal Court function to see if they're as dumb as they sound.
2. Stop wearing the Castro Clone look.
3. Stay clear of people who think that the Castro scene is the alpha and omega of Gay life. —
4. Goggle and howl whenever one chooses while at a Gay porn flick.
5. Stay clear of affluent Gays who think that "being poor" is an attitude.
5. Stay clear of affluent Gays who think that "being poor is an attitude."
6. Recognize that it is possible to have sex without (a) amyl (or butyl) nitrate, (b) marijuana, (c) other drugs, (d) booze.
7. Refrain from asking an obvious bodybuilder how much his muscles cost.
8. Stop trashing Thomas M. Edwards, right-wing reactionary columnist of *The Sentinel*, for being asinine. It's too easy.
9. Stay clear of Gay est graduates.
10. Stop giving power to the Rev. Ray Broshers and start laughing heartily at his paper, *The Gay Crusader*.

11. Also give credit to Broshers — he initiated the Gay Freedom Day Parade and has provided on-going service to many poor and needy people, however questionable his motives have been and continue to be.

12. Refrain from yawning while talking with an Advocate Experience graduate.

13. Spend at least one day a week abstaining from genital thinking.

14. If a Gay man, get to know Lesbians better.

15. If a Lesbian, get to know Gay men better.

16. Get active in the Gay Rights movement.

17. Stay clear of rigid/radical left Gays who refuse to take personal responsibility for anything — especially their own problems.

18. Go disco dancing without poppers or taking off one's shirt.

19. If past the age of 23, be as bored with the Punk Rock scene as you wish.

20. If under 23, remind yourself that a few people over 23 may not be as un-hip as you think.

21. Refuse to pay for tricks on Polk Street. Remember when Polk Street was free?

22. Stay clear of people who think that "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" is the greatest film ever made and/or started the gender-fuck glitter scene.

23. Refrain from slugging pretentious opera/symphony/ballet queens.

24. Don't allow "fag" or "dyke" put-downs to go by unchallenged. Speak up! Whenever and wherever.

25. Stop patronizing Gay discos that charge absurd admission prices.

26. Politely inform Gay salesclerks at Macy's that they don't own Macy's and that their job is to provide service — not attitude, which any insecure nitwit can dredge up.

27. If newly arrived from New York, stop comparing, and remember why you left.

28. If you can't stop comparing New York to San Francisco, then please return to New York. Everyone will be much happier.

29. Don't apologize for liking Judy Garland, Edith Piaf, Broadway musicals, KMPX, KKHI or KDFC.

30. Similarly, don't apologize for liking Janis Joplin and hard rock.

31. Avoid Gay people who make statements like, "What's all this 'Gay' thing about? I don't like labels; I'm not 'Gay' or 'straight' or 'bi.' I just 'AM.' " Make no mistake. These Gay people will fight the Gay rights movement to the bitter end.

32. Refuse to patronize Gay bars and Gay restaurants just because the employees are "cute" or "hunky" or "hot."

33. Have compassion for the Gay man or Lesbian who's leading a heterosexual lifestyle — all the while working for more education amongst closet Gay people that promotes "Gay is okay."

34. Ask the Bible thumpers at Powell and Market why they're so hung-up on homosexuality. They seem to have forgotten that the Bible talks about various other things — however contradictory it may be.

35. Refrain from falling down from laughing at tourists dressed in leisure suits, white shoes, teased hair and formal granny gowns. We probably look silly to them also.

36. Acknowledge the S&M scene for what it really is: negative self-esteem. Read *The Sexual Outlaw*.

37. Laugh as much as you wish while touring the Folsom scene.

38. Go to the Strand Theatre and actually watch the movies.

39. Quit doing the peep-show and tea-room circuit because they're cop-outs.

40. Acknowledge that Gay Liberation is more than just fucking.

41. Stay clear of fishy-poo queens who've memorized every etiquette book ever printed. There's no hope.

42. Do not go to Polk Street on Halloween. Let the punks have it.



photo by Emery Reiff

PLAYERS NEEDED
for
Community Gay Softball
GSL PLAYER RECRUITMENT
285-0758 (after 6 PM)

43. Go to Wilkes Bashford and laugh.

44. Do not punch out Gay people who think *After Dark*, *Blueboy*, *Macho*, *Honcho*, *Numbers*, etc. are the apex of High Class Gay Journalism.

45. Feel free to punch out anyone who thinks Norma McLain Stoop, *After Dark* film critic, is a knowledgeable movie reviewer.

46. Be wary of Gay joggers who promote jogging as a mystical cure-all. Walk — don't jog — away from them.

47. Read *The Serial* and *Tales of the City*, and, if you know people like that, drop them faster than it takes you to remove your Birkenstocks.

48. Stop promoting *Straight to Hell*, a New York periodical, as Gay liberation and acknowledge it as repressive and oppressive.

49. Stop seeing your particular version of being Gay as "better than" or "less than" someone else's.

50. If you have a problem with booze, dope, overeating or gambling — joining TODAY Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, Overeaters Anonymous and/or Gamblers Anonymous. They're listed in the phone book and are free. Join TODAY, for tomorrow never comes.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



Karl Forrest, "the most believable — and therefore effective — sex star to appear on film."

Porn Corner —

Fey-Way Sights

by Karr

TOUCHING OUR LIFESTYLE

The graphic work of Thomas Hinde is on display at the Fey-Way Studios, 1287 Howard Street, through February 18. Hinde's architectural background brings a tautness of execution to his hair-raising visions of bondage and Gay sex life. There are line drawings of men alone or in pairs, executed with a disarming simplicity that heightens the strength of the sex depicted. Several larger works open into worlds beyond our own. As our eye travels past two men fucking, we see the wolf's mouth that engulfs them, and they become its tongue and throat. One ink-washed dream, entitled "Holy Family," depicts coupled men presided over by a spectral Madonna. Strange, strong, and beautifully crafted, these are the best and most visceral works yet displayed at this unusual gallery.

Karr

MEMORIES OF "A CHRISTMAS FIX"

Robert Opel's short, *FUCK YOU SANTA CLAUS*, shown one-night-only on December 30 at Fey-Way Studios, along with Camille O'Grady and Ruby Zebra performing dadaistic musical social commentary gathered together an eclectic group of mostly male bohemian avant garde in a standing-room-only setting to bring in the new year "experiencing."

Late, perhaps fashionably, both vocalists performed against a black silk backdrop

accompanied by members of the Zebra, while simultaneously a startlingly explicit S&M flick was screened behind them, combining to bring consciousness to a total absorption on the here-and-now of sexual decadence.

Opel's 30-minute film was a wonderful distraction. While the scenes of Hollywood Boulevard are "star-studded," the film itself is not. "Free, white and 21" (or perhaps 18), Rick Rouse begins his day with a "Sunnyvale special" of waffles that had everyone chuckling, wafts from his Greentown studio to experience a "vision" in a seedy side-street theater, and is inspired to visit Santa in The Broadway department store. It is not, however, a bicycle that our "chicken" wants for Christmas, but rather, to literally fuck Santa . . . who is more than willing to comply, taking the lad into his gingerbread-facaded cottage and granting his wish. Against a jet black background, their figures are ethereally illuminated as the man-child crams a full-erect member into the traditionally-costumed Mr. Claus. Oh, but they are having fun, their eyes shining, bodies writhing, coming closer and closer to the ultimate squirt.

Wish granted, Santa escorts the Mickey-Mouse chapeau'd youth back into the department store, returns to his seat and greets another child, an infant of 6-months who could only be wishing to return to the womb. Rouse saunters away, fulfilled, proving that anything is possi-

ble in Hollywood.

Fey-Way Studios has exhibited the works of such international and local homo-erotic artists as Tom of Finland, Rex, Etienne, Billy Bowers and St. Bernard. Call 626-1000 for future shows. The come-as-you-wish-you-were artist's receptions with domestic wine flowing freely are experiences in themselves, worth venturing into the urbane starkness of the Folsom district to attend.

Steven Paris

Hotlines Listed for Vets, VD, Travel, Etc.

Federal toll-free (no charge) hotlines are available for citizens who wish information on a variety of subjects. All numbers require that the prefix "800" be dialed before the final seven numbers listed.

Those desiring information about job safety and health, federal taxes, and veterans benefits may call (800) 555-1212 to learn proper regional "help" numbers.

It is suggested that those using the following numbers call in the morning hours, as the agencies are located on the East Coast. Dial "800" first:

Venereal Disease . .	523-1885
Auto Safety	424-9393
Moving,	
Trans. Problems .	424-9312
Housing,	
Job Equality	424-8590
Product Safety . . .	638-2666
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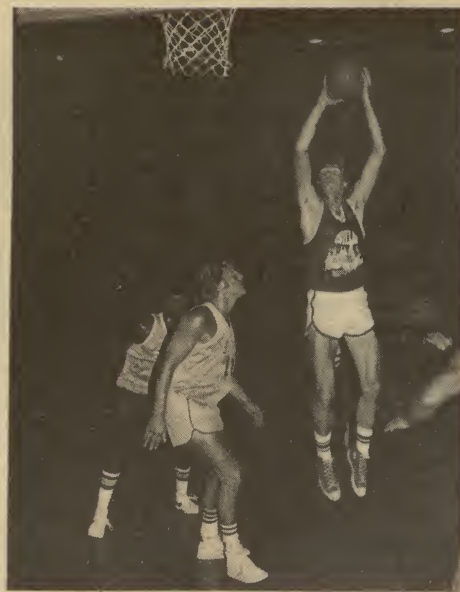
S.F. vs N.Y.

San Francisco's Castro Village Community Basketball Team will host a two-day, best two-out-of-three game tournament against New York City's Greenwich Village Community Team.

The challenge was made by the New York team and will be played over the Washington Birthday weekend. The first game will be played at 11:00am, Sunday, Feb. 18, at the Collingwood School Gym (Collingwood St. between 18th & 19th Streets). The second game will be played Monday, Feb. 19, at 11:00am with the third game to follow, if necessary.

The tickets are \$5 for the two-day tournament, with all proceeds to go to purchase athletic equipment for the Collingwood Recreation Center. Tickets are available at the Pendulum, Sutter's Mill, Twin Peaks and The Village.

The Castro Village team lost an exciting game to the S.F. Police Dept. in 1977. Last year



BASKETBALL BATTLE OF THE VILLAGES
(Greenwich vs. Castro) — San Francisco hosts New York in a two-day tourney, Feb. 18-19. Photo of last year's Gays/Fire Dept. game by Bob Clay.

the team came up with a thrilling one-point victory over an excellent Fire Dept. team.

C.S.L. MEETING

The Community Softball League's regular monthly meeting will be held this Saturday, Feb. 3, 1:00pm at the Giraffe bar, 1131 Polk Street. The main business of the day will be the drawing for the division line-ups for the 1979 season and the announcing of each team's schedule. Also of interest will be a discussion on the Gay World Series to be held this fall.

The C.S.L. last month set its opening day game for Sunday, April 8, pairing the Mint against Sutter's Mill in what should prove to be the best opening game in the league's seven-year history.

BRIDGE TOURNAMENT

The monthly Chuck Demmon Bridge Tournament for charity will be held at the Mint on Saturday, Feb. 10, beginning at 10:00am. The January tournament netted over \$200 for the Harvey Milk Memorial Building Fund.

CABLE CAR AWARDS

Bob Cramer's 5th Annual Cable Car Awards will be held this Sunday, Feb. 4, 7:30pm at the Galleria, with the sports community up for some of the nominations.

In the Outstanding Freedom Day Parade Float by an Organization category, the Community Softball League float (Pitch In With Joy — Strike Out In Justice) is one of the five nominees.

The Outstanding Poster Design (Multi-color) also finds the Community Softball League with its Red, White and Blue opening day poster, designed by Paul Ruehl, one of the six nominees.

The Outstanding Sports Columnist of the Year will be chosen from among Bruno Bereshnoy (B.A.R.), Mark Brown (B.A.R.), J. C. Cunningham (Rip Off Rag), and Jim Dewey (Sentinel).

G.S.L. Report

By Mac McCarrick

The last meeting of the Gay Softball League at the Fickle Fox was the best attended yet, with over 40 voting on issues presented. The main excitement was selection of Division line-ups (by luck of the draw):

DIVISION A

Alfie's
Irene's Fabulous Forties
San Jose Community
The Phone Booth

DIVISION B

All American Boy
The Bunkhouse
The Deluxe
The Fickle Fox
Gilmores

DIVISION C

The Eagle Creek Saloon
The Nothing Special
The Rookies
Urban Country
The Vagabond

Division A should be a hot race with defending GSL champs Alfie's up against perpetual division-leader Irene and her Fabulous Forties ("Well, at least we admit . . . dear heart! . . .") The already formed and formidable Phone Booth and ALL of San Jose are also out after Alfie's. Joe, Steve, Jerry, et al, call Alfie's . . . FAST! The other divisions — anything can, and probably will, happen. Division C holds two veteran teams, the Eagle Creek and the Vagabond. B is

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also anybody's guess, with all first-time sponsors. However, the tenor of the meetings indicates that participation and "fellow"ship still outstrip more-

A "Zen" softball league — Gay yet? There's an only-in-San-Francisco for ya. The team specifically sponsored for beginners has no "home base" as yet, but you can get more information by calling Jack at 584-9499.

Be sure to hold Sunday evening, Feb. 18, (remember, Monday's a holiday) open for the SUPER-DISCO at 330 Grove, the Gay Community Center. A benefit for the GSL, the tickets are \$5 and are available at all GSL sponsors as well as The Viking Men's Hair Stylists, the Twin Peaks, Mainline China Gifts, and King's Court.

Chairman Chuck Zinn could still use a lot more assistance on the SUPER-DISCO. Call him at 864-7079.

The GSL will hold its next meeting on February 10 at 10:00am at The Bunkhouse, 419 Ivy Street. The league hopes to wrap up all pre-season business at this meeting so we can get on with playing ball. All are welcome to attend and participate.

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Books

**The View From The Closet:
Essays on Gay Life and Lib-
eration, 1973-1977**
by A. Nolder Gay

by Frank Howell

A. Nolder Gay is the handle used by a gentleman from Boston who has been writing a regular column for homophile publications such as the *Gay Community News* and *Esplanade*.

His essays cover a wide piece of ground ranging from life styles, older Gays, Gay politics, happenings, and problems in the Boston area. He also delves into ancient history such as scandals in the court of Louis XIII and also the love between the Roman Emperor Hadrian and Antinous of Bithynia.

One article in particular intrigued me. He discusses a piece that appeared in *Newsweek*, June 9, 1947, about Gays who were discharged from the Army during World War II.

The Army psychiatrists give many observations about Gay men in the armed forces but conclude with this charming bit of wisdom, "As a whole, these men were law abiding and hard working. In spite of nervous, unstable, and often hysterical

temperaments, they performed admirably as office workers. Many tried to be good soldiers."

This is a good buy for those who avidly collect Gay literature.

ANOTHER LOOK AT "FAGGOTS"

Reprinted from
CLEVELAND GAY NEWS

Baby, sweetheart, darling, have we got a novel for you this month. It's *Faggots* by Larry Kramer, and boy, is it bad.

Picture, if you will, an American publisher releasing a novel about Poles in America entitled *Polaks*. Then imagine the same publisher asking a major Polish writer to praise the book in print. A Henryk Sinkiewicz writes, "I hope the Polish community will not be offended by this book. One must not lose one's sense of humor." Hard to believe? No, for Random House has actually done something similar to this

AFTER A SESSION

RECENTLY WITH A CERTAIN GUY, FIRST TIME EVER,
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"CHUCK, YOU REALLY DO LOVE IT — DON'T YOU!"

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MAYBE THIS WILL HELP CLEAR YOUR MENTAL
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hypothetical example in the promotion of *Faggots*. They have gotten a blurb from none other than the playwright Edward Albee, who usually keeps his yap shut when he should be saying something. Albee says we should keep our sense of humor about this wonderful satire of our mores.

He's right though, for *Faggots* is quite a joke, a semi-serious exploitation of what it means to be queer in New York in a certain isolated (read: Larry Kramer) upper-middle-class environment. It is as atypical of Gays as Bobby Vinton is of Poles. *Faggots* is a slick attempt by a bad writer to make money off of us, with hardly a single redeeming quality evident.

I say this with some confidence, as I have suffered with every word, every line, of this book. At one point I lost track

of the characters. At another, I thought the author lost track of his material. Each line seemed to be written with a view toward being excerpted, and I gratefully refuse to lift a single word.

There is an apocryphal story concerning Andrew Holleran (author of *Dancer From the Dance*) and Larry Kramer, as they are about to enter a cinema on Long Island. The usher shouts, "Faggots!" "Well," says Larry Kramer, "he must be talking about my book." And I agree. Talk about this book, but don't read it. Take your 10 dollars and send it to Larry Kramer instead. He can use the money, and there'll be no middle man to confuse you into believing you have bought satire, let alone literature.

Rich Grzesiak

FRONT RUNNERS Schedule of Sunday Runs

Our purpose is to provide encouragement and support to Lesbians, Gay men and others who are interested in running. All events start at 10 AM Sundays. They are non-competitive, free and all are welcome. For information call Gary at 641-0250, Pat at 863-4942 or Marvin at 647-2056. Come out running!

FEB. 4 — CHAIN OF LAKES RUN: Meet at the North Windmill in Golden Gate Park. This run is mostly on bridle trails through the quiet, western end of the Park. Bring a snack to share after the run.

FEB. 11 — CHINA BASIN RUN: Meet in front of the 527 Club, 527 Bryant Street, for this waterfront run.

FEB. 18 — FORT POINT/MARINA GREEN RUN: Meet at Fort Point, below Golden Gate Bridge, for this run along the Golden Gate Promenade.

FEB. 25 — STOWE LAKE RUN: Meet at the Stowe Lake Boathouse in Golden Gate Park — enter from South Drive. This is a good one for beginners.

MARCH 4 — INDUSTRIAL PENTAGON RUN: Meet at the large, blue China Basin Building at 4th & Berry for this five-sided run through the industrial section of the city. Bring a snack to share after the run.



Great Outdoors was launched in the spring of 1978 in Southern California to conduct weekend trips. Its motto: "To provide the Gay Community . . . with a new avenue to meet people of the same viewpoint in a healthy environment."



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1979 *Seven Committee*

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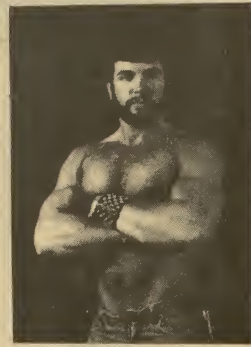
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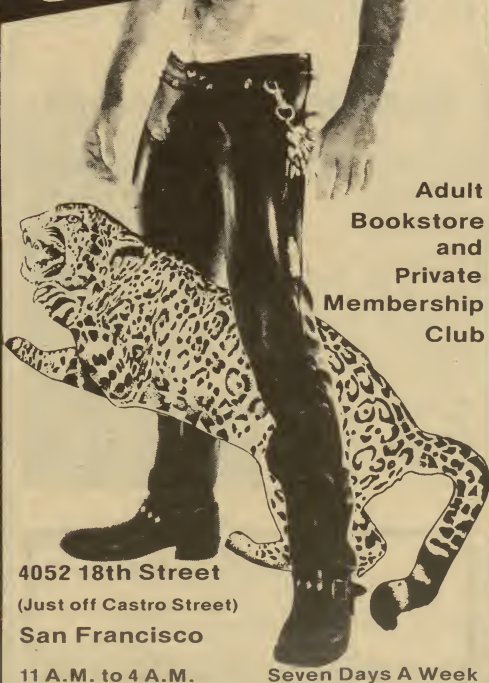
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